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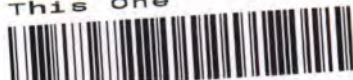
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An Historical Digest *of the* Provincial Press

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AMERICAN ART ASSOCIATION

BOOK AND PRINT DEPARTMENT

Author: Lyman H. Weeks & Edw.M. Bacon

Title: Historical Digest of the
Provincial Press

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An Historical Digest

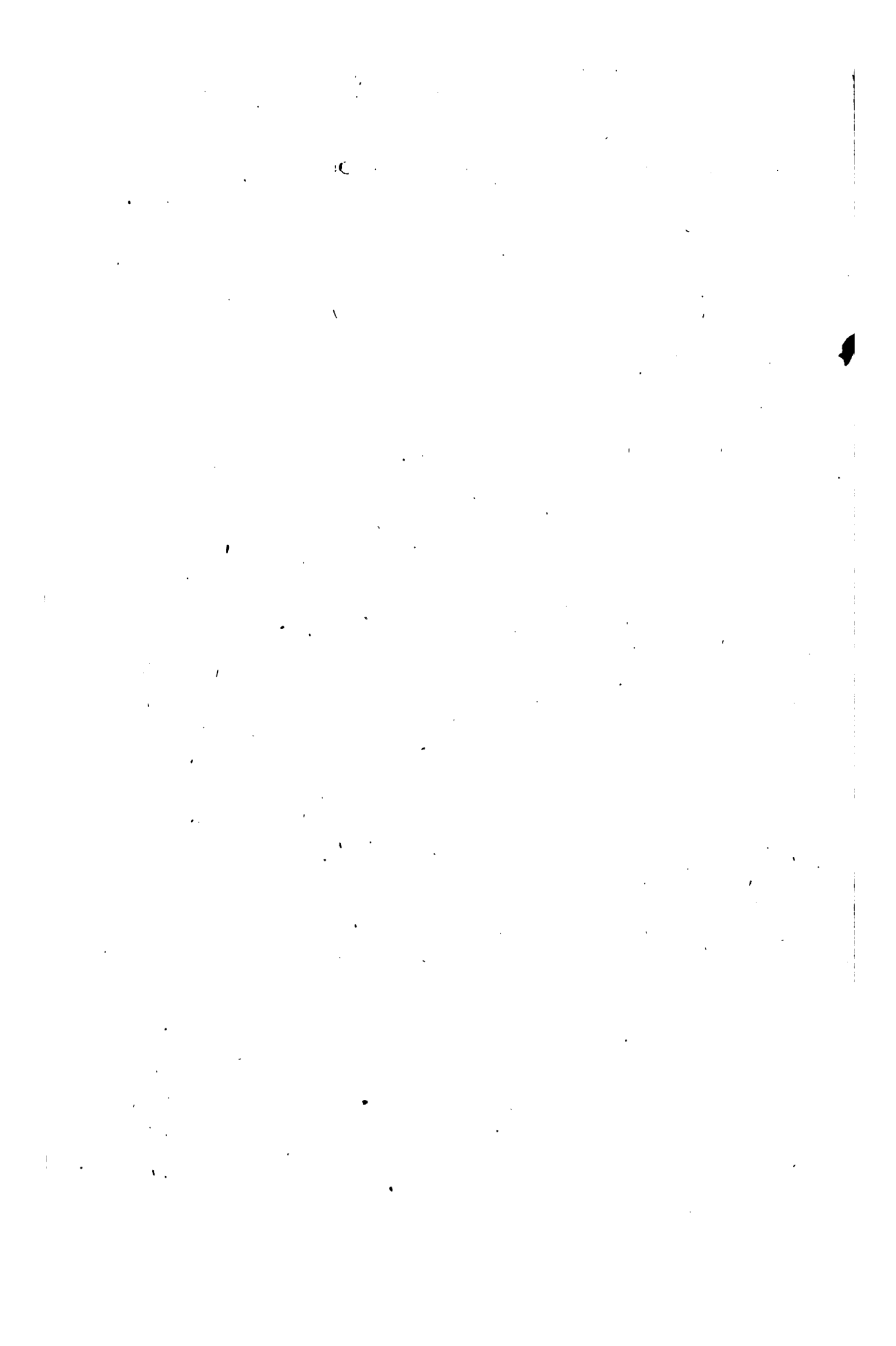
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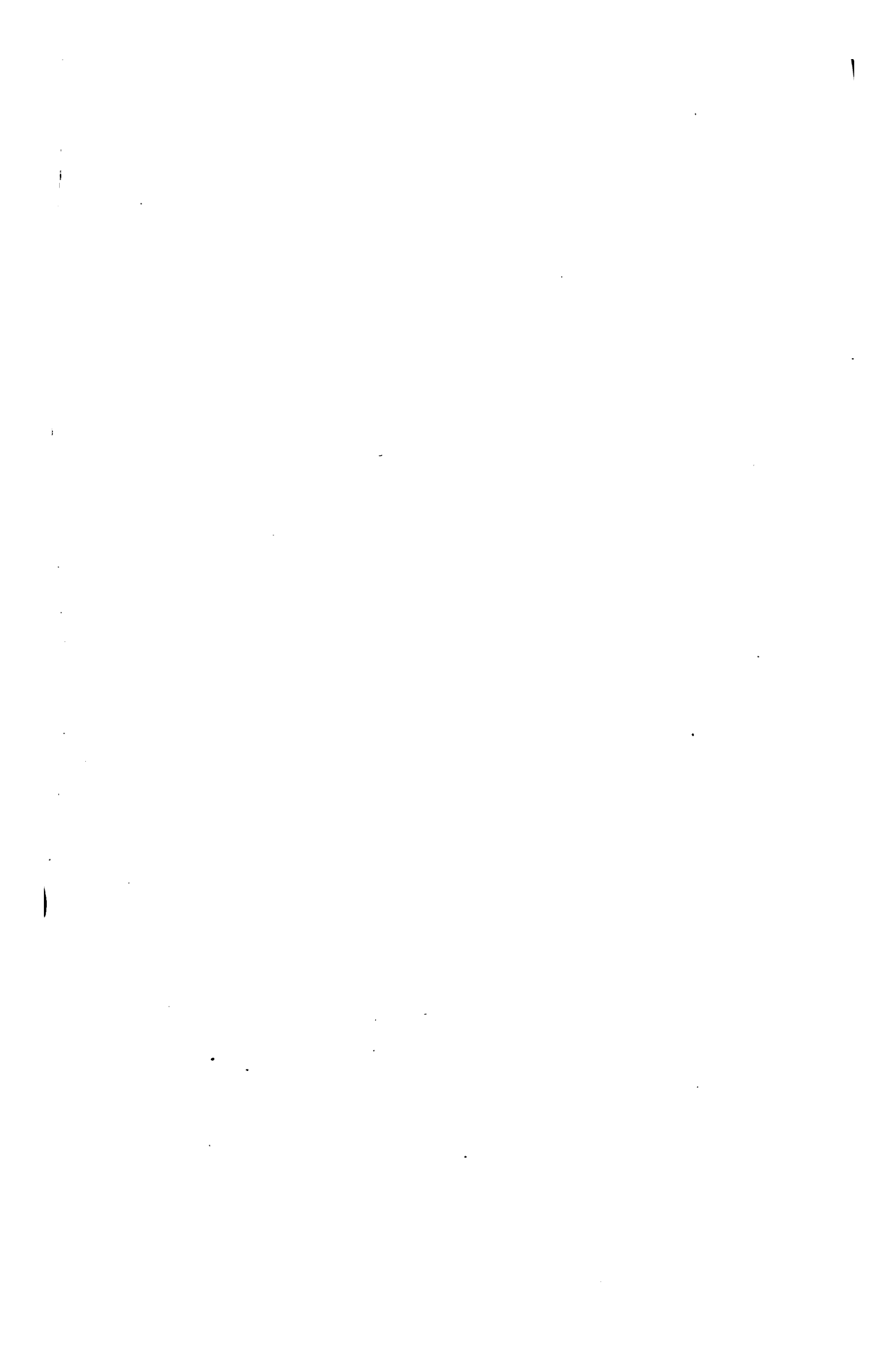


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AN HISTORICAL DIGEST
OF THE PROVINCIAL PRESS





CHIEF JUSTICE SAMUEL SEWALL, DIARIST
REPRODUCED FROM ENGRAVING IN THE NEW ENGLAND
HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL REGISTER

An Historical Digest of the Provincial Press

Being a Collation of All Items of Personal and Historic
Reference Printed in the Newspapers of the Provincial
Period from the Appearance of the Present State of
the New-England Affairs, to the Publick Occurrences,"
1764, and the Anniversary of the Boston News-Letter,"
1711, to the Close of the Revolution, 1783

Illustrated

MASSACHUSETTS SERIES

VOLUME ONE

Compiled and Edited under the Direction of

LYMAN HORACE WEEKS

Author of "Prominent Families of New York," "Book of Bruce," Etc.

AND

EDWIN M. BACON

Author of "Historic Pilgrimages in New England," "The Connecticut
River and the Valley of the Connecticut," Etc.

BOSTON

THE SOCIETY AMERICANA

MDCCCVIII



An Historical Digest of the Provincial Press

Being a Collation of All Items of Personal and Historic Reference Printed in the Newspapers of the Provincial Period from the Appearance of "The Present State of the New-English Affairs," 1689, "Publick Occurrences," 1690, and the First Issue of "The Boston News-Letter," 1704, ending with the Close of the Revolution, 1783

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BOSTON

THE SOCIETY AMERICANA

MDCCCVIII

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THE SOCIETY AMERICANA
BOSTON

PROPOSAL

The Boston News-Letter.

Published by Authority.

From Monday April 17. to Monday April 24. 1704.

London Flying-Post from Decemb. 2d. to 4th. 1703.

Letters from Scotland bring us the Copy of a Sheet lately Printed there, Intituled, *A Reasonable Alarm for Scotland. In a Letter from a Gentleman in the City, to his Friend in the Country, concerning the present Danger of the Kingdom and of the Protestant Religion.*

This Letter takes Notice, That Papists swarm in that Nation, that they traffick more avowedly than formerly, & that of late many Scores of Priests and Jesuites are come thither from *France*; and gone to the North, to the Highlands & other places of the Country. That the Ministers of the Highlands and North gave in large Lists of them to the Committee of the General Assembly, to be laid before the Privy-Council.

It likewise observes, that a great Number of other ill-affected persons are come over from *France*, under pretence of accepting her Majesty's Gracious Indemnity; but, in reality, to increase Divisions in the Nation; and to entertain a Correspondence with *France*: That their ill Intentions are evident from their talking big, their owning the Interest of the pretended King James VIII. their secret Cabals, and their buying up of Arms and Ammunition, whatever they can find them.

From all this he infers, That they have hopes of Assistance from *France*, otherwise they would never be so impudent; and he gives Reasons for his Apprehensions that the *French* King may send Troops thither this Winter, 1. Because the *English* & *Dutch* will not then be at Sea to oppose them. 2. He can then best spare them, the Season of Action beyond Sea being over. 3. The Expectation given him of a considerable number to join them, may encourage him to the undertaking with fewer Men if he can but send over a sufficient number of Officers with Arms and Ammunition.

He endeavours in the rest of his Letters to answer the foolish Pretences of the Pretender's being a Protestant, and that he will govern us according to Law. He says, that being bred up in the Religion and Politics of *France*, he is by Education a stated Enemy to our Liberty and Religion. That the Obligations which he and his Family owe to the *French* Kings, must necessarily make him to be wholly at his Devotion, and to follow his Example, that if he lie upon the Throne, the three Nations must be oblig'd to pay the Debt which he owes the *French* King for the Education of himself, and for Entertaining his supposed Father and his Family. And since the King must restore him by his Troops, if ever he be restored, he will see to secure

of some distressed persons, many of whom are
that Pretender, that several of them have declar'd
they had rather embrace Popery than conform to
the present Government; that they refuse to pray
for the Queen, but use the ambiguous word Sovereign,
and some of them pray in express Words for
the King and Royal Family; and the charitable
and generous Prince who has shew'd them so much
kindness. He likewise takes notice of Letters not
long ago found in Cypher, and directed to a
Person lately come thither from St. Germain.

He says that the greatest Jacobites, who will not
qualify themselves by taking the Oaths to Her Majesty,
do now with the Papists and their Compacitors
from St. Germain set up for the Liberty of the
Subject, contrary to their own Principles, but merely
to keep up a Division in the Nation. He adds,
that they aggravate those things which the People
complain of, as to England's refusing to allow them
a freedom of Trade, &c. and do all they can to foment
Divisions betwixt the Nations, and to obstruct
a Redress of those things complain'd of.

The Jacobites, he says, do all they can to persuade
the Nation that their pretended King is a
Protestant in his Heart, tho' he dares not declare it
while under the Power of France; that he is acquainted
with the Mistakes of his Father's Government,
and endeavours himself to his Subjects.

They magnify the Strength of their own Party,
and the Weakness and Divisions of the other, in
order to facilitate and hasten their Undertaking;
they argue themselves out of their fears, and into
the highest assurance of accomplishing their purpose.

and *Romish* Schools, he will never think himself
sufficiently aveng'd; but by the utter Ruine of his
Protestant Subjects, both as Heretics and Traitors.
The late Queen, his pretended Mother, who in
cold Blood when she was Queen of *Britain*, resolv'd
to turn the West of *Scotland* into a hunting-ground,
will be then for doing so by the greatest part of the
Nation; and, no doubt, is at Pains to have her pretended
Son educated to her own Mind: Therefore, he
says, it were a great Madness in the Nation to
take a Prince bred up in the horrid School of
titude, Persecution and Cruelty, and filled with
Rage and Envy. The Jacobites, he says, both in
Scotland and at St. Germain, are impatient under
their present Straits, and knowing their Circumstances
cannot be much worse than they are, at present,
are the more inclinable to the Undertaking.
He adds, That the French King knows there cannot
be a more effectual way for himself to arrive at the
Universal Monarchy, and to attain the Protestant
Interest, than by setting up the Pretender upon the
Throne of Great Britain, he will in all probability
attempt it; and tho' he should be persuaded that
the Design would miscarry in the close, yet he cannot
but reap some Advantage by imbroiling the
three Nations.

From all this the Author concludes it to be the
Interest of the Nation, to provide for Self defence;
and says, that as many have already taken the
Alarm, and are furnishing themselves with Arms
and Ammunition, he hopes the Government will
not only allow it, but encourage it, since the Nation
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of

FIRST PAGE OF THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE BOSTON NEWS-LETTER

REPRODUCED FROM A PRINT IN "TEN FAC-SIMILE REPRODUCTIONS RELATING TO VARIOUS SUBJECTS"
BY SAMUEL ABBOTT GREEN

By Courtesy of Samuel Abbott Green

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It likewise observes, that a great Number of other ill-affected persons are come over from France, under pretence of accepting her Majesty's Gracious Indemnity; but, in reality, to increase Divisions in the Nation, and to entertain a Correspondence with France: That their ill Intentions are evident from their talking big, their owning the Interest of the pretended King James VIII. their secret Cabals, and their buying up of Arms and Ammunition, wherever they can find them.

To this he adds the late Writings and ASings

From all this he infers, That they have hopes of Assistance from France, otherwise they would never be so impudent; and he gives Reasons for his Apprehensions that the French King may send Troops thither this Winter, 1. Because the English & Dutch will not then be at Sea to oppose them. 2. He can then best spare them, the Season of Action beyond Sea being over. 3. The Expectation given him of a considerable number to join them, may encourage him to the undertaking with fewer Men if he can but send over a sufficient number of Officers with Arms and Ammunition.

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to their heads, the late Secretary of State, for the sake of some disaffected persons, many of whom are for that Pretender, that several of them have declared that they had rather embrace Popery than conform to the present Government; that they refuse to pray for the Queen, but use the ambiguous word Sovereign, and some of them pray in expiatory words for the King and Royal Family; and the charitable and generous Prince who has shew'd them so much Kindness. He likewise takes notice of Letters not long ago found in Cypher, and directed to a Person lately come thither from St. Germain.

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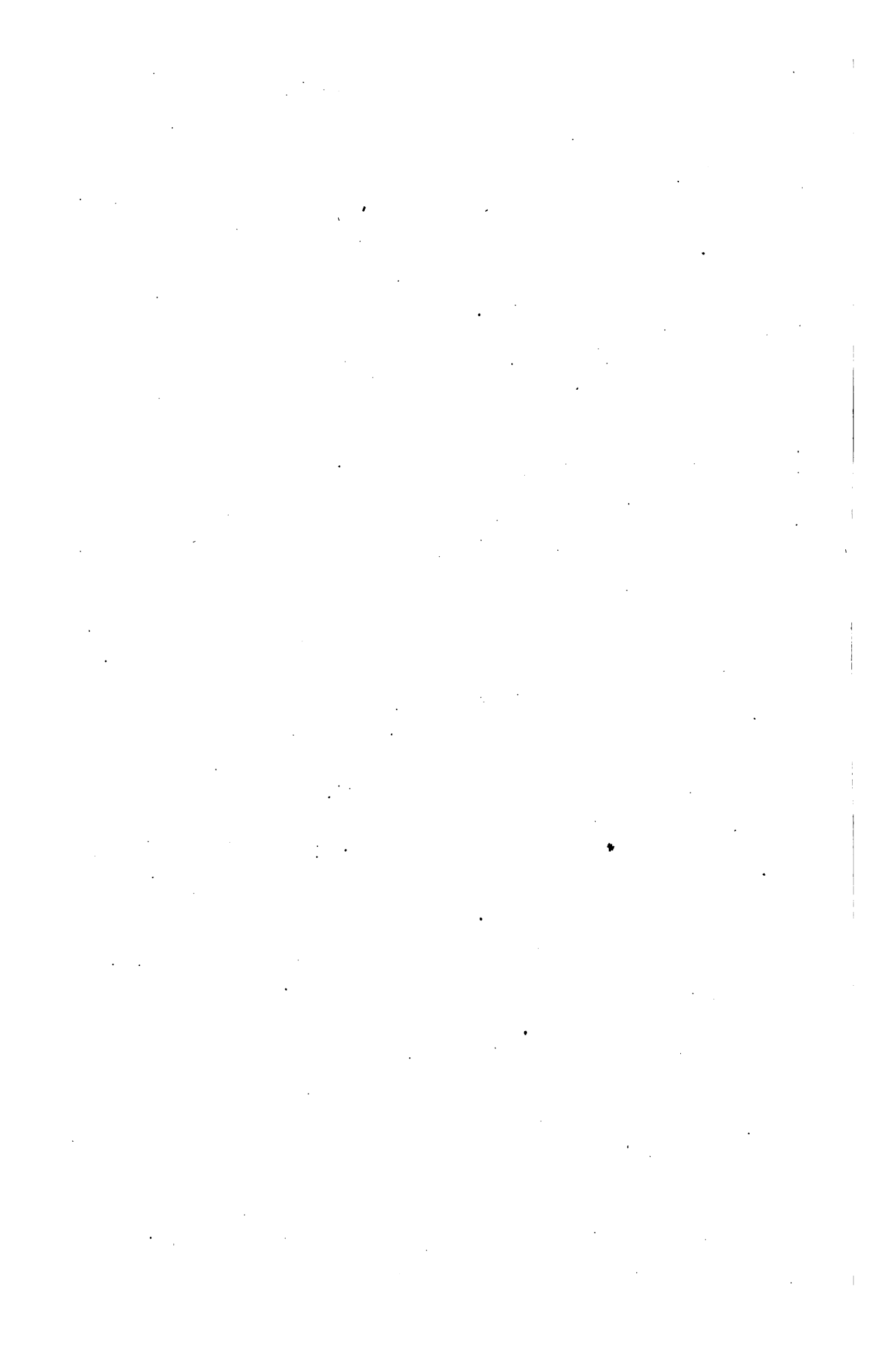
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PROPOSAL

IT is proposed to compile and publish a digest of all items of personal reference and of historic events and documents printed in the newspapers of the Provincial Period. At the suggestion and with the endorsement of members of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and of other historical organizations, this work has been undertaken by Lyman Horace Weeks and Edwin M. Bacon, editors, and the Society Americana, publishers. For many years past a digest of this character has been contemplated and has been keenly desired by historians and others. The large expense, the great amount of labor, and the considerable financial risk necessarily involved in the adequate and satisfactory accomplishing of such a work have heretofore been unsurmountable obstacles in the way of attempting it. The project is now entered upon under favorable conditions and with a sound financial backing that will enable it to be carried out to a successful termination. As will be seen by the accompanying notes of approval on pages 21, 22 and 23 of this prospectus, the enterprise has the approbation of librarians, scholars and others most interested in the preservation of all that pertains to the domestic affairs and public doings of the American founders.

The importance of such a compilation is indisputable, and in the experience of investigators is constantly emphasized by the inadequacy and inaccessibility of the information relating to this formative period in American history. Many of the old town and church records previous to the beginning of the nineteenth century have disappeared. That valuable documents and papers were carried away from Boston at the time of the Evacuation is well known. Not even the town records of Boston, and of other cities and towns,—the minutes of the town meetings, of the selectmen, and of other proceedings,—or the records of probate courts and of the registers of deeds, are complete; and in Boston and elsewhere many vital statistics are lacking. In numerous instances no records were kept; in many others the records have been

PROPOSAL

lost or destroyed. The publication of the ancient town records and other documents by the city registrar of Boston, and the Massachusetts Vital Records by the New England Historic Genealogical Society particularly disclose this condition.

By students of our colonial period it is recognized that the early newspapers preserved a great amount of material, nowhere else to be found, in reports of local events, in official documents and other papers, and in personal items relating to the daily lives of the people and to the activities of the communities then developing. Such information is incontestably valuable to the historian, the genealogist, the student, the lawyer, the judge, the conveyancer, and others, both from the literary and the practical view, serving to illuminate much that otherwise would remain obscure, and furnishing vital data concerning both public and private affairs of that period. Also in the special field of literature much is discoverable in the columns of these old newspapers and magazines that is of peculiar interest and value to the investigator into literary usages, the origin of words, terms and phrases which have worked their way into the common language. All this it is proposed to collect and preserve in An Historical Digest.

While this information will supplement other records and meet deficiencies existing in them, it will particularly include an abundance of matter that is of distinctive character and has not heretofore been collected, bearing upon such subjects as—

Port Statistics,	Events, Local and Colonial,
Importations,	Business Pursuits and Ventures,
Passenger Arrivals and	Residences,
Departures,	Real-Estate Transactions,
Wills,	Court and Administrative Affairs,
Public Proceedings,	

[and so on].

The various items comprised in the Digest will be arranged in chronological order under the names of the newspapers from which they are taken, with dates of issue and abbreviated reference to the libraries in which the different issues are now preserved. All the personal items, reports of events, and historical documents that have never been reprinted and that constitute the bulk of the data to be drawn upon, will be reproduced entire or in copious abstracts. Such documents and historical papers as may have been already reprinted

PROPOSAL

in collections of historical and antiquarian societies or in standard works of history will not always be reproduced in full, but will be briefly abstracted and reference made to those works wherein they can be readily consulted. In its entirety An Historical Digest will be a complete abstract, or an index, to all that was printed in the Provincial newspapers of the period included in review. It is intended that the work shall largely obviate the necessity of consulting the originals save, perhaps, in exceptional instances by scholars, and place all this material, now widely separated, once for all in compact form, wholly available for the widest private and public use.

The newspapers which will be utilized in this work are shown in the accompanying chronological list of titles. Such copies of these early periodicals as have been preserved are scattered in many libraries in different parts of the country. No single library has a complete set of any one of them. To consult all existing numbers the investigator must have recourse to several libraries in widely separated cities, such as Boston, Worcester, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Madison, Wisconsin, and elsewhere. In some instances the only copies preserved are in private or proprietary libraries not generally open to the public. Thus these valuable periodicals are not alone difficult of consultation, but in many instances they are practically inaccessible. Moreover, many of them are in such a frail and perishable condition that their custodians soon will be compelled seriously to consider the wisdom of withdrawing them altogether from promiscuous use. The danger of loss by fire is also ever present. For all reasons, therefore, it is obvious that a pressing necessity exists for collecting and preserving this matter in a form most convenient for use and forever secure from destruction.

The labor of compilation will be entrusted to a staff of persons experienced in research of this character and familiar with our Colonial and Provincial history, under a careful editorial direction and supervision that will, it is believed, insure substantial thoroughness and accuracy.

The Digest will be published in octavo volumes closely conforming in typographic style to such standard historical compilations as the Town Records of Boston and the Massachusetts Vital Records now so generally acceptable in public and private libraries. Each

PROPOSAL

volume will have about five hundred pages and will be illustrated with reproductions or fac-similes of newspapers and other publications, and portraits of representative men of the period covered. The printing will be on rag paper that will ensure lasting durability. The binding will be in buff and blue, the colonial colors, and, further to carry out the idea of colonial style, the titles will be printed on white labels.

Each of the twenty volumes in the set will be complete in itself and will be provided with a copious index. In conclusion there will be, in a single volume, an exhaustive personal and analytical index to the entire work.

The edition will be limited and the work will be sold by subscription only in sets of twenty volumes at \$150 the set. The successive volumes, in chronological order, will be printed as rapidly as compiled. They will be delivered as published, one or more at a time or in full sets when wholly completed, as subscribers may prefer.

MASSACHUSETTS PERIODICALS
1689-1783

MASSACHUSETTS PERIODICALS

1689-1783

Following is a list, chronologically arranged, of newspapers and other periodicals published in Massachusetts, beginning with the single sheet of extracts from letters of the Reverend Increase Mather in 1689, and ending with the close of the Revolution in 1783. The list is based upon a similar list in a volume published by the Colonial Society of Massachusetts; and it is used herewith by the kind permission of Mr. Albert Matthews of Boston.⁽¹⁾ In making up the list considerable dependence has also been placed upon the work of Mr. William Nelson of Paterson, New Jersey.⁽²⁾ The various names under which several of these newspapers were published during their existence are listed separately and, where necessary for identification, the parent title is given in connection therewith in parenthesis. In this list the first two titles are not of periodicals but of publications which were simply broadsides, while the Campbell manuscript letters were not even publications. Nevertheless it has been considered quite in keeping with the character and purpose of this Digest to include them herewith inasmuch as they were the first expression of a public desire for printed news that ultimately led to the establishment of the Boston News-Letter.

The Present State of the New-English Affairs, Boston, 1689

Admiral Russel's Letter to the Earl of Nottingham, 1692

Letters Sent by John Campbell, Postmaster of Boston, to the
Governors of New England, April-October, 1703

(1) "Check list of Boston Newspapers, 1704-1780," by Mary Farwell Ayer, with Bibliographical Notes by Albert Matthews. Publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, Vol. IX, 1907.

(2) Mr. Nelson's account of the early American newspapers, covering as it does, all the colonies, is the latest and remains as yet the most complete compilation of its kind that has been made. "Archives of the State of New Jersey, First Series, Vol. XII. Some account of American Newspapers, Particularly of the Eighteenth Century, and Libraries in Which They May be Found. Part II—Massachusetts."

MASSACHUSETTS PERIODICALS

- Publick Occurrences, both Forreign and Domestick, Boston, September 25, 1690
- The Boston News-Letter, April 24, 1704-December 29, 1726
- The Boston Gazette, December 21, 1719-October 12, 1741
- The New-England Courant, Boston, August 7, 1721-June 4, 1726
- The Weekly News-Letter, Boston, January 5, 1727-October 29, 1730
- The New-England Weekly Journal, Boston, March 20, 1727-October 13, 1741
- The Boston Weekly News-Letter, November 5, 1730-August 25, 1757
- The Weekly Rehearsal, Boston, September 27, 1731-August 11, 1735
- The Boston Weekly Post-Boy, October, 1734-June 4, 1750
- The Boston Evening-Post, August 18, 1735-April 24, 1775
- The Boston Gazette, or, New England Weekly Journal, October 20, 1741
- The Boston Gazette, or, Weekly Journal, October 27, 1741-December 26, 1752
- Boston Weekly Magazine, March 2-March 16, 1743
- The Christian History, Boston, March 5, 1743-February 23, 1745
- The American Magazine and Historical Chronicle, Boston, September, 1743-December, 1746.
- The Independent Advertiser, Boston, January 4, 1748-December 5, 1749
- The Boston Post-Boy, June 11, 1750-December 23, 1754
- The Boston Gazette, or, Weekly Advertiser, January 3, 1753-April 1, 1755
- The Boston Gazette, or Country Journal, April 7, 1755-April 5, 1756
- The Boston Gazette, and Country Journal, April 12, 1756-April 5, 1779⁽¹⁾
- The Boston Weekly Advertiser, August 22, 1757-December 25, 1758
- The Boston News-Letter, September 1, 1757-March 18, 1762
- The New England Magazine of Knowledge and Pleasure, Boston, August, 1758⁽²⁾
- Green & Russell's Boston Post-Boy & Advertiser, January 1, 1759-May 23, 1763

(1) Published in Watertown, June 5, 1775—November 1776.

(2) Two numbers of this magazine are known to be in existence. The title of the first number reads "The New England Magazine for August 1758," and that of the second number "The New England Magazine of Knowledge and Pleasure."

MASSACHUSETTS PERIODICALS

- The Boston News-Letter. And New-England Chronicle, March 25-December 30, 1762
- The Boston News-Letter, and the New-England Chronicle, January 6-March 31, 1763
- The Massachusetts Gazette. And Boston News-Letter, April 7, 1763-October 31, 1765
- The Boston Post-Boy & Advertiser, May 30, 1763-September 25, 1769
- The Massachusetts Gazette (Boston News-Letter), November 7, 1765- May 15, 1766
- The Massachusetts Gazette. And Boston News-Letter, May 22, 1766-May 19, 1768
- The Boston Chronicle, December 21, 1767-June 25, 1770
- The Massachusetts Gazette, Boston, May 23, 1768-September 25, 1769
- The Boston Weekly News-Letter, May 26, 1768-September 21, 1769
- The Essex Gazette, Salem, August 2, 1768-May 2, 1775
- The Massachusetts Gazette: and the Boston Weekly News-Letter, September 28, 1769-February 22, 1776
- The Massachusetts Gazette, and the Boston Post-Boy and Advertiser, October 2, 1769-April 17, 1775
- The Massachusetts Spy, Boston, July 17, 1770-October 1, 1772
- The Censor, Boston, November 23, 1771-April 4, 1772
- The Massachusetts Spy Or, Thomas's Boston Journal, October 8, 1772-April 6, 1775
- The Essex Journal and Merrimack Packet: Or, the Massachusetts and New Hampshire General Advertiser, Newburyport, December 4, 1773-1776
- The Royal American Magazine, or Universal Repository of Instruction and Amusement, Boston, January, 1774-March, 1775
- The Salem Gazette and Newbury and Marblehead Advertiser, July 1, 1774-1775
- The Massachusetts Spy: Or An American Oracle of Liberty, Worcester, May 3, 1775-1781
- The New-England Chronicle: Or, the Essex Gazette, Cambridge, May 12, 1775-April 4, 1776
- The Essex Journal and New Hampshire Packet, 1776
- The New-England Chronicle, Boston, April 25-September 12, 1776
- The Continental Journal, and Weekly Advertiser, Boston, May 30, 1776-December, 1783
- The American Gazette: Or, The Constitutional Journal, Salem, June 8, 1776

MASSACHUSETTS PERIODICALS

- The Massachusetts Spy Or, Thomas's Boston Journal, October 8, 1772-April 6, 1775
- The Massachusetts Spy: Or, An American Oracle of Liberty, Worcester, May 3, 1775-1781
- Thomas's Massachusetts Spy: Or The Worcester Gazette, Worcester, 1781-1783
- New-England Chronicle, 1775-1783
 - The New-England Chronicle: Or, the Essex Gazette, May 12, 1775-April 4, 1776
 - The New-England Chronicle, April 25-September 12, 1776
 - The Independent Chronicle, September 19-October 31, 1776
 - The Independent Chronicle. And the Universal Advertiser, November 7, 1776-December, 1783
- Independent Ledger, 1778-1783
 - The Independent Ledger, and American Advertiser, June 15-July 13, 1778
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The Massachusetts Herald: Dr. Worcester Journal, Sept. 6, 15, 20 and 27, 1783
The Boston Magazine, October, and December 1783

Following is a list of the several newspapers which during the Provincial Period were published under different titles. Appended thereto are the names under which those newspapers were successively published.

Boston News-Letter, 1704-1776

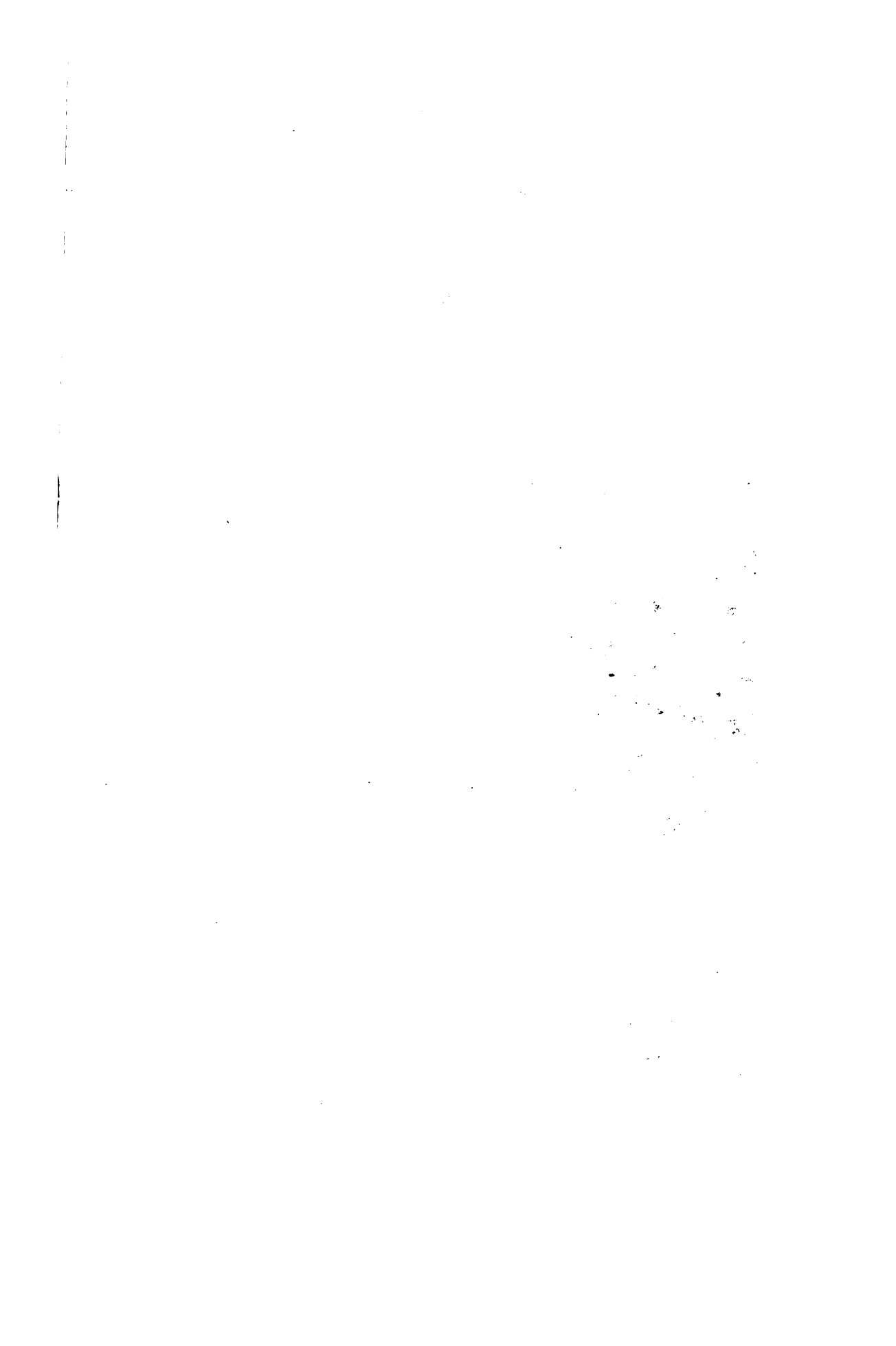
- The Boston News-Letter, April 24, 1704-December 29, 1726
The Weekly News-Letter, January 5, 1727-October 29, 1730
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- Boston Gazette, 1719-1783**
- The Boston Gazette, December 21, 1719-October 12, 1741
- The Boston Gazette, or, New England Weekly Journal, October 20, 1741
- The Boston Gazette, or, Weekly Journal, October 27, 1741-December 26, 1752
- The Boston Gazette, or, Weekly Advertiser, January 3, 1753-April 1, 1755
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- The Boston Post-Boy, June 11, 1750-December 23, 1754
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THE
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MDCCXLIII. MDCCXLIV.



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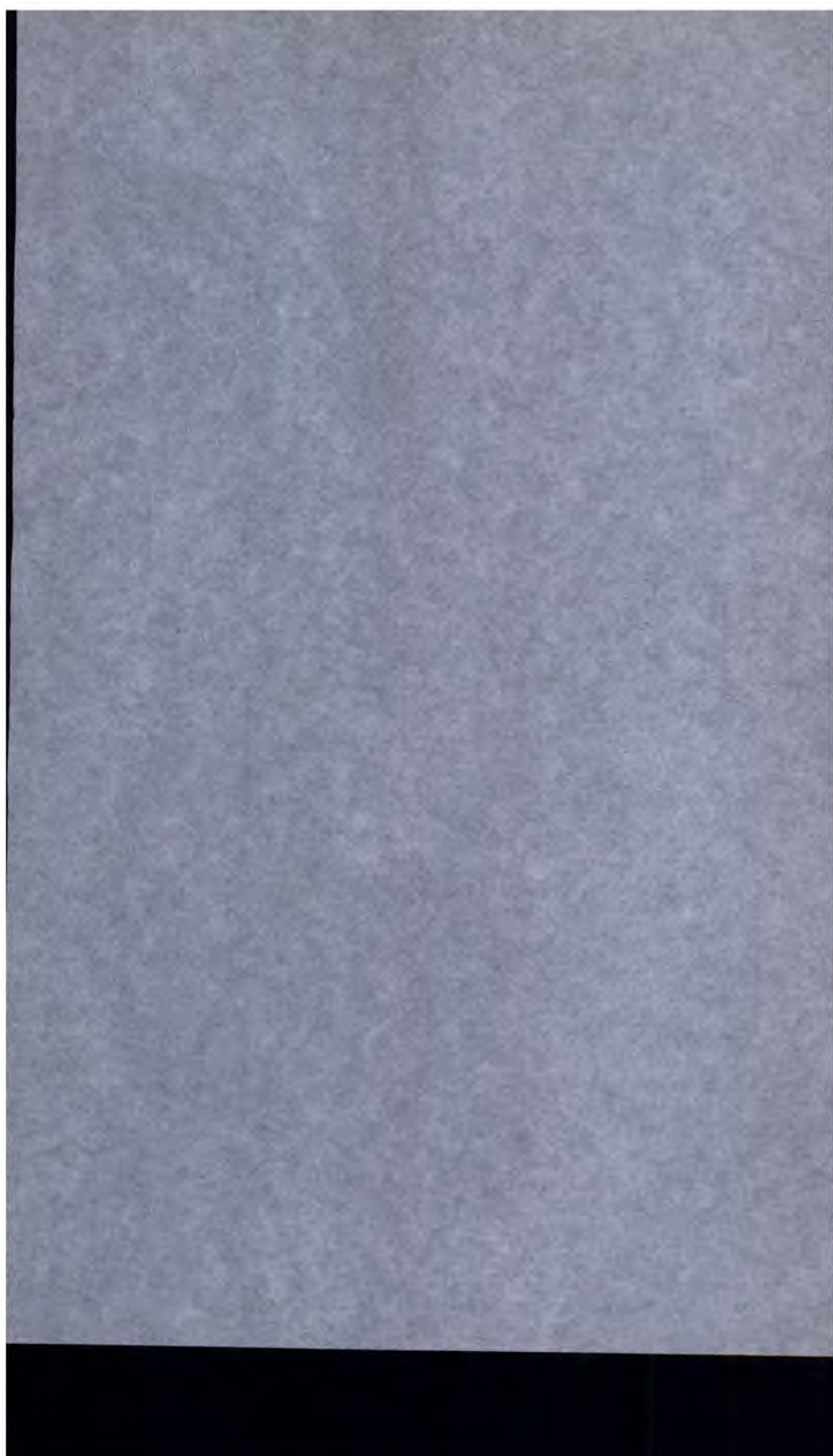
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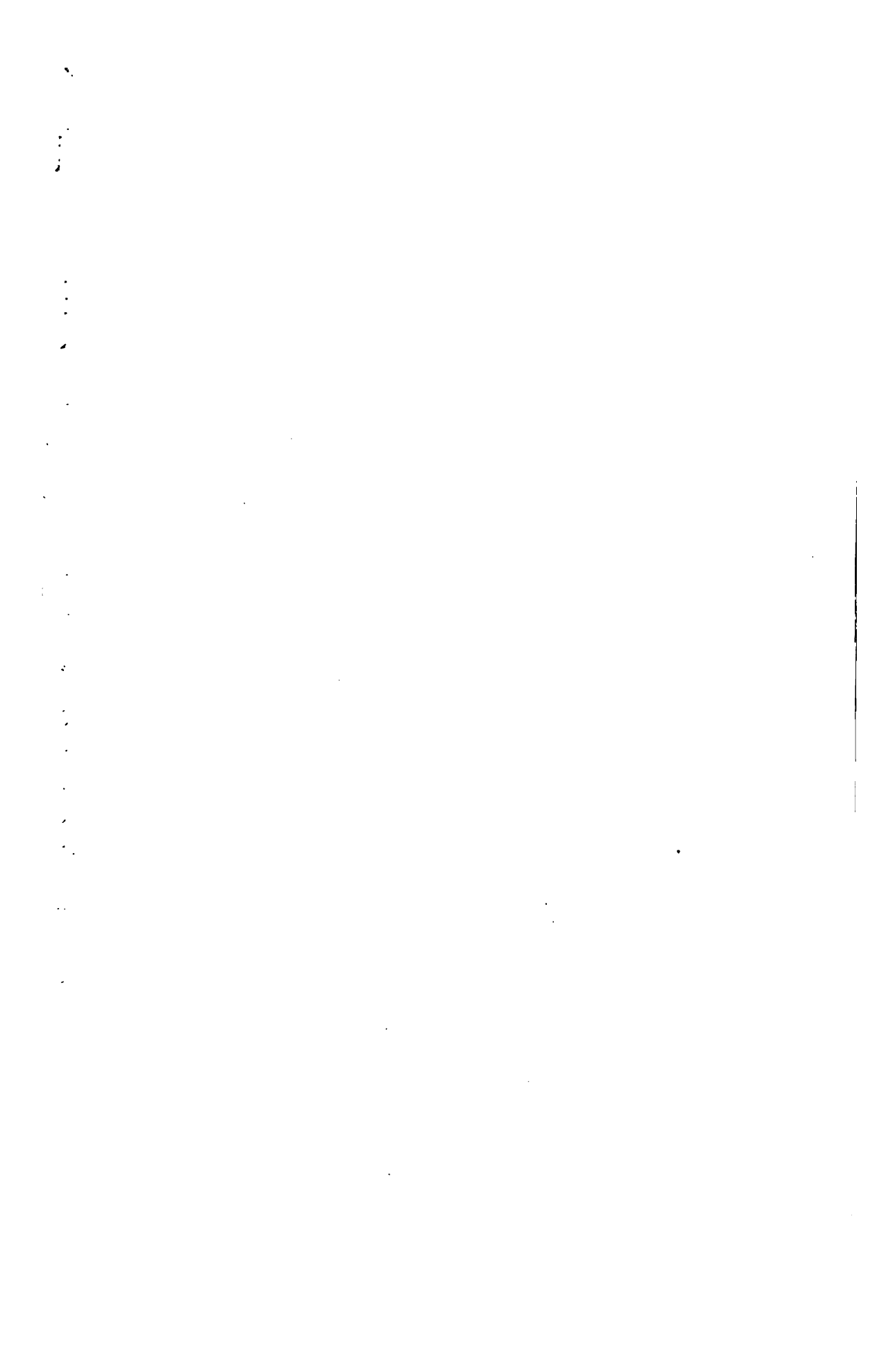
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"Your comprehensive plan for an Historical Digest of the Provincial Press is admirable. If faithfully carried out on the lines of your

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prospective, without abridgment, the work cannot fail to be of great value to historical students and scholars, since it will place within their reach, in compact form, matter of the first importance, which is nowhere else preserved, and which is to-day widely scattered and difficult of access. The transcription of the marriages and deaths recorded in these newspapers will be of special value to conveyancers, as well as to historians and genealogists, since the town records of these events during the Provincial Period are in many cases lamentably imperfect. The "copious index" which is promised will make these items in particular of great practical value. I shall be glad to join with other members of the Society in doing what I can to promote the success of your undertaking."

Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge; United States senator, member of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

"I have no doubt of the value of the work you propose as an important book of historical reference and I am sure it will be well and thoroughly done by you and Mr. Bacon. I shall be very glad to join with other members of the Historical Society in giving the work my approval as you suggest."

Albert Bushnell Hart; Professor of History, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

"I have a warm interest in reprints of contemporary materials, and the newspapers are of great service, and very hard both to find and to use when a file is available; such a series as you propose will, therefore, be of service both to the collector and the investigator. I understand it is your purpose to print, with textual exactness, except for the long s's and "ye" (which of course is but an abbreviation); and exactness of transliteration, while not presented in facsimile, is a part of course of the precision and scientific value of such a work. I cheerfully give my consent to be associated as a member of a committee, and shall be personally interested in the progress and completion of this much needed work."

Wilberforce Eames; Lenox Librarian, the New York Public Library.

"Your plan to reprint in a collected form the historical material in the early American newspapers, prior to the year 1775, is a great undertaking in itself, and one that deserves the support and encour-

NOTES OF APPROVAL

agement of all who are interested in American history. If the publication of your Digest is fully and carefully carried out to the end, in accordance with your announcement, it will render a service of the highest importance to historical students. With best wishes for your success in this enterprise."

Victor Hugo Paltsits; State Librarian, Albany, New York.

"I am greatly interested in your herculean plan for the publication of *An Historical Digest of the Provincial Press*, which deserves, I believe, every encouragement towards its prosecution. For many years I have specialized in the history of the American Colonial newspapers, and I know of their absorbing interest and value in historical research and constructive work; also how rare and inaccessible they are. To take out the meat and serve it up, as your prospectus proposes, whets the appetite of every historical student. My advice may be superfluous, but I offer it for what it may be worth—reprint with absolute literalness, even to the reproduction of textual vagaries. I have proved a few items, which show that you are doing this."

Samuel Swett Green; Librarian, Free Public Library, Worcester, Mass., Member of the Council of the American Antiquarian Society, and Fellow of the Royal Historical Society of Great Britain.

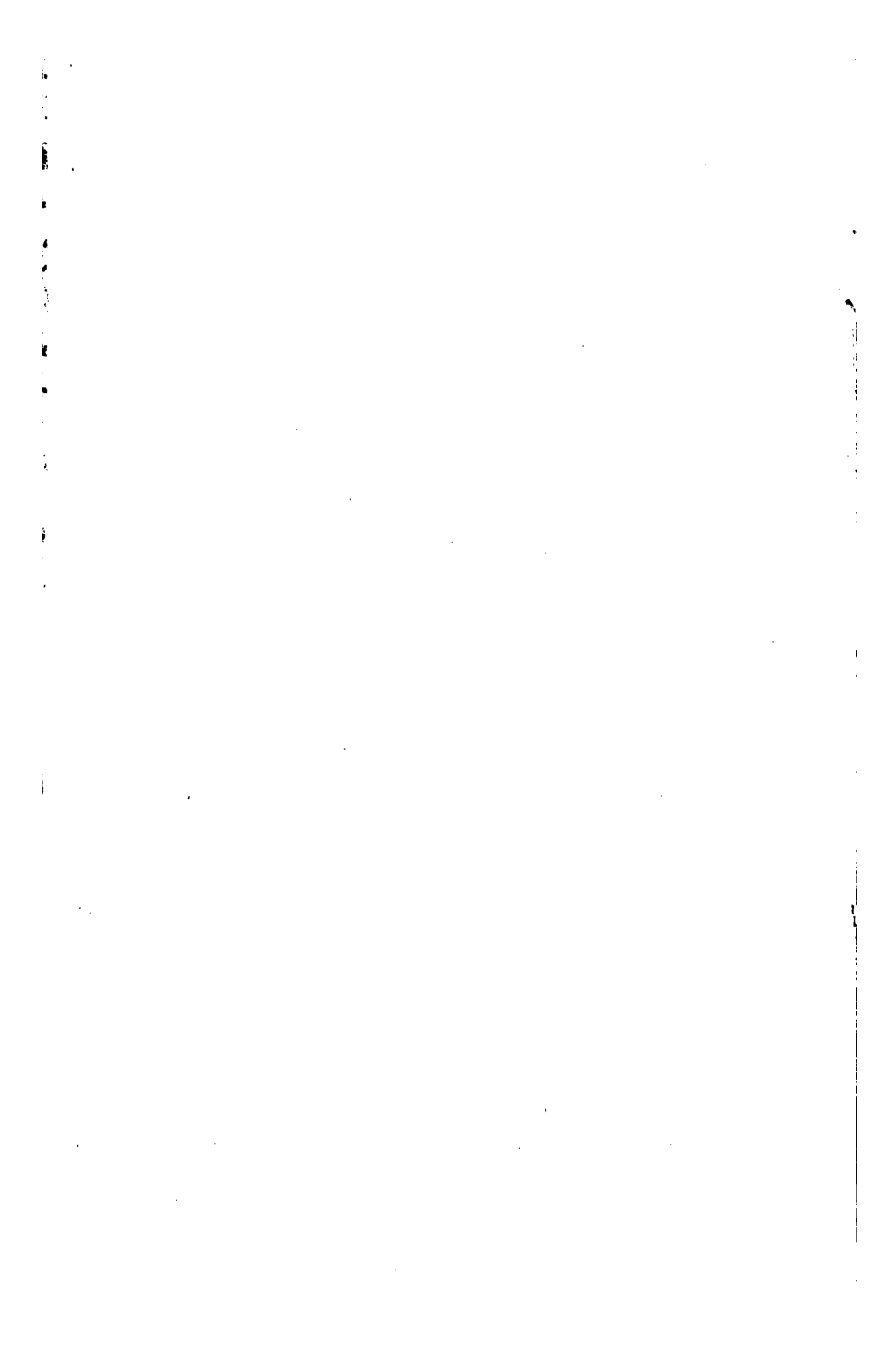
"The interest and value of such a work is at once evident to me and I shall be truly gratified to see it undertaken. If you think that it will help you to use my name as a member of an advisory committee you are at liberty to do so."

Henry Greenleaf Pearson; Professor of History, Institute of Technology, Boston.

"I am fully sensible of the importance of the work that you have undertaken, and I wish to give it my hearty recommendation."

Edward W. McGlenen; City Registrar, Boston.

"Your book entitled *An Historical Digest of the Provincial Press* has been carefully examined by me, and I think same is very good indeed. If I can do anything to assist you, I will be only too willing."

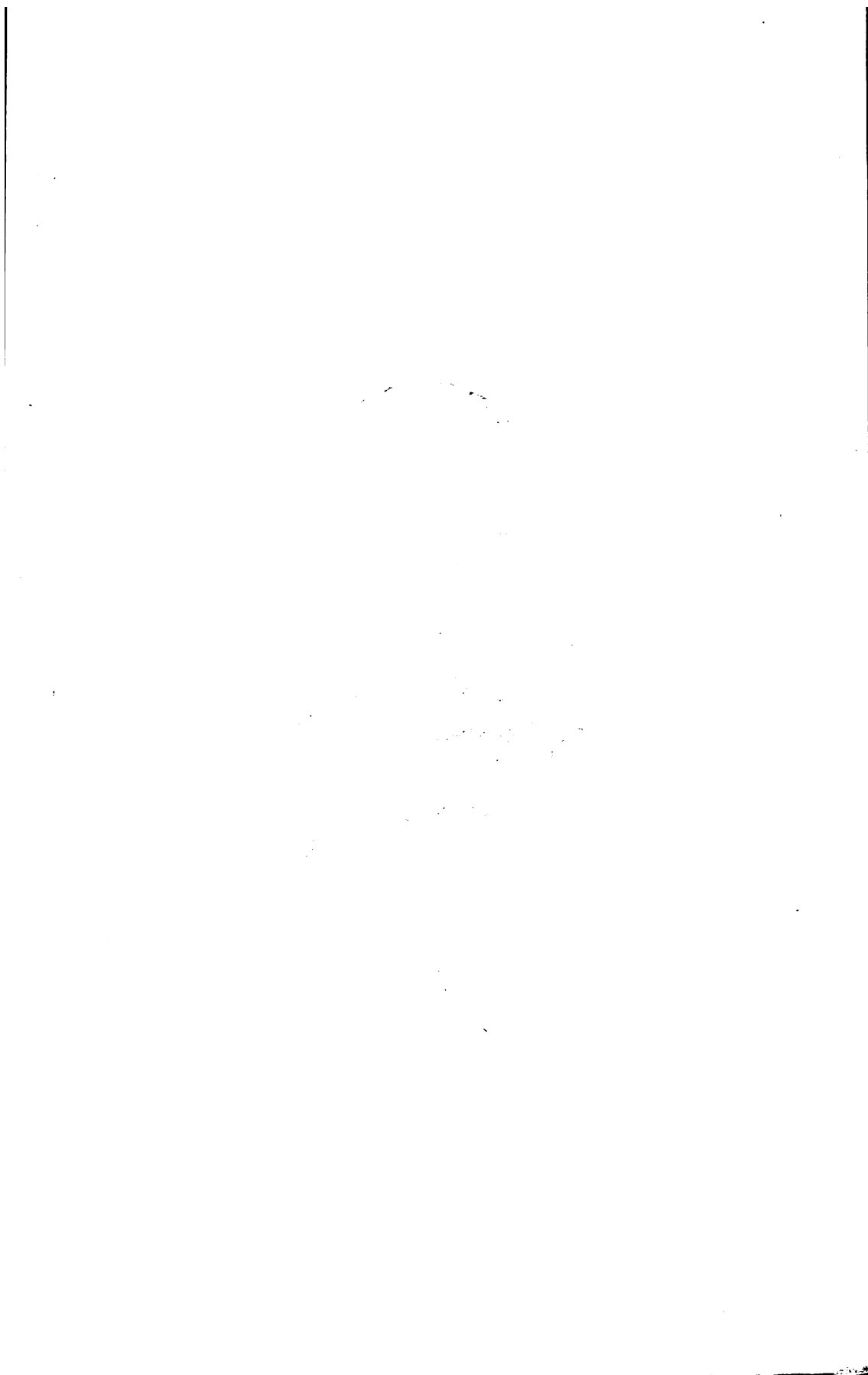


1689-1720

THE PRESENT STATE OF THE
NEW-ENGLISH AFFAIRS
ADMIRAL RUSSEL'S LETTER
JOHN CAMPBELL'S LETTERS
PUBLICK OCCURRENCES
THE BOSTON NEWS-LETTER
THE BOSTON GAZETTE

The following abbreviations as they are appended to the titles of the newspapers included in this work indicate the libraries in which original copies of the respective issues are now preserved.

- A S=American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Massachusetts.
- B A=Boston Athenæum, Boston.
- B P=Boston Public Library, Boston.
- B S=Bostonian Society, Boston.
- D C=Dartmouth College Library, Hanover, New Hampshire.
- E I=Essex Institute, Salem, Massachusetts.
- G S=New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston.
- H U=Harvard College Library, Cambridge, Massachusetts.
- L C=Library of Congress, Washington.
- L L=New York Public (Lenox) Library, New York.
- M H=Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston.
- M S=Massachusetts State Library, Boston.
- N Y=New York Historical Society, New York.
- P H=Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.
- WH=State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.





INCREASE MATHER, MINISTER OF THE NORTH CHURCH, BOSTON

**REPRODUCED FROM ENGRAVING IN THE NEW ENGLAND HIS-
TORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL REGISTER**

The Present State of the

New-English Affairs.*

This is Published to Prevent False Report.

*An Extract of a Letter from Mr. Mather, To the Govenour,
Dated Sept. 3, 1689 from Deal in Kent.*

THE House of Commons Ordered a Bill to be drawn up for the Restoration of Charters to all Corporations. Some Enemies of *New-England* did bestir themselves on that Occasion. But it has pleased God to succeed Endeavors and Solicitations here so far, so that *N. E.* is particularly mentioned in the Bill.

It has been read twice, and after that referred unto a Committee for Emendations. What concerns *N. England* passed without any great opposition. The Bill has been in part read the third Time, and the Charters of *N. Eng.* then also passed without Objection. Only some Additional Clauses respecting Corporations here, caused Debates, so that the Bill is not yet Enacted.

In the latter end of June, a Vessel from Mount Hope arrived here, which brought your Declaration of *April 18.* with an account of the Revolution in *New England.* The week after I went to *Hampton Court,* and had the favour to wait on *His Majesty,* who told me, *That He did accept of, and was well pleased with what was done in New-England, and that he would order the Secretary of State to signify so much, and that His Subjects there should have their Ancient Rights and Priviledges restored to them.*

*In a fac-simile reproduction printed in 1901, William G. Shillaber refers to this sheet as "The first attempt at newspaper publication on this side of the Atlantic Ocean." Strictly speaking this was not even an attempt at a newspaper, an essential distinction of which is successive and regular publication. It was a broadside but in it was a germ of the coming newspaper. It was published in Boston in 1689 and bears the imprint "Boston Printed and Sold by Samuel Green 1689." It is a single

NEW-ENGLISH AFFAIRS

The King has sent a Gracious Letter (which was delivered to me, and if I return not my self, I shall take care that it be sent to you) bearing Date *August 12.* *Wherein He signifies His Royal Approbation* of what has been done at *Boston*, and assures you that the Government there shall be settled, so as shall be for the Security and Satisfaction of His Subjects in that Colony, and in the mean time bids you go on to Administer the Laws, and manage the Government, according as in your Address you have Petitioned.

My Lord *Mordent* (now Earl of *Monmouth*) bade me assure you that He would be your Friend, and he bade me tell you from him, *That your charters should be restored to you by Act of Parliament.*

I have been in the *Downs* a fortnight, and Aboard Mr. *Clark*, cil, who have promised to befriend *New-England* as there shall be occasion for it. The like I may say, of all the *Leading-men* in the Parliament.

I have been in the *Downs* a fortnight, and Abroad Mr. *Clark*, several Nights, but the Wind has been against us. And we now hear that the *New-found-Land* Convoyer (on whose Assistance we had a Dependence) are gone.

Superscribed To the Honourable

Simon Bradstreet, Esq.

Governour of the *Massachusetts Colony* in *N-England*.

A Passage extracted from the publick News-Letter, Dated

July 6. 1689.

THE people of *New-England* having made a thorow Revolution, and secured the publick Criminals. On Thursday last, the Reverend and Learned Mr. *Mather*, President of the *Colledge*, and Minister of *Boston*, waited on the King; and in a most Excellent Speech

sheet printed on one side, the paper page being 8 by 14½ inches and the type page 7 by 12 inches. It is made up in two columns and contains extracts from two letters written by the Reverend Increase Mather from England, where he then was engaged in business relating to the new charter of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. In addition there is also an extract from the London Public News-Letter. A solitary specimen of this publication exists in the Massachusetts Archives, volume 35, page 83, at the State House, Boston. A reprint was published in the New Hampshire Historical Society's Collections for 1866 and there is a facsimile reproduction in Samuel Abbott Green's "Ten Fac-Simile Reproductions Relating to Various Subjects," published in Boston in 1903.

NEW-ENGLISH AFFAIRS

laid before His Majesty, the State of that People; saying, *That they were sober, and Industrious, and fit for Martial Service; and all with their Lives and Interests were at His Majesties Command, to tender the same unto His Majesty: That they desired nothing but His Majesties Acceptance of what they had done, and His Protection; and that if His Majesty pleased to encourage and Commission them, He might easily be Emperour of America.* His Majesty assured him, that He was pleased with what was done for Him, and for themselves in the Revolution, and that their Priviledges and Religion should be secured unto them.

Extracted from a Letter of Mr. Mather, to his Son, Dated
Sept. 2. 1689.

On July 4. The King said unto me, *That He did kindly Accept of what was done in Boston. And that His Subjects in New-England should have their Ancient Rights and Priviledges Restored and Confirmed unto them.* Yea, He told me, *That if it were in his power to cause it to be done it should be done,* and bade me rest assured of it.

The *Charter-Bill* is not finished, because some Additional Clauses respecting Corporations here in *England* caused a Debate; and the Parliament is for some weeks Adjourned.

Besides the Letter from the Kings Majesty, whereof we have notice as above; there is now arrived, an Order from His Majesty to the Government, bearing date, *July 30, 1689.*

Requiring, *That Sir Edmund Andross, Edward Randolph, and others, that have been Seized by the people of Boston, and shall be at the Receipt of these Commands, Detained there, under Confinement, be sent on Board the first Ship, bound to England, to answer what may be objected against them.*

(I.)

Admiral Russel's

LETTER

TO THE

Earl of Nottingham,*

Containing an Exact and Particular Relation

of the Late Happy

Victory and Success

Against

The French Fleet

Published by Authority

Admiral Russell's letter gives a detailed account of the great naval engagement which took place between the combined English and Dutch fleets on the one side, and the French fleet on the other, off Capes La Hogue and Barfleur in May 1692. The French fleet was commanded by the Comte de Tourville and numbered forty-five ships. The letter of the Admiral is dated Portsmouth, June 2, 1692 and begins in this way:

*This news sheet consists of four printed pages, two columns to a page, the paper page being $7\frac{1}{2}$ by $11\frac{3}{4}$ inches and the type page $5\frac{1}{2}$ by $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The heading and Admiral Russell's letter fill nearly six columns and the rest of the sheet is taken up with the private letter from Portsmouth and the note in regard to the reception of the news in Boston of the English naval victory. The sheet has this imprint: "*Boston* Printed, and Sold by *Benjamin Harris* at the *London-Coffee-House*, 1692." A unique specimen is in the library of Harvard College and a fac-simile reproduction was published in Samuel Abbott Green's "*Fac-Simile Reproductions Relating to Various Subjects*," Boston, 1903.

ADMIRAL RUSSEL'S LETTER

"Since your Lordship seems to think that an Account in general of the Fleet's good Success is not so satisfactory as one setting forth the Particulars, I here send it with as much Brevity as the Matter will admit of. I must confess I was not much inclined to trouble you in this matter, not being ambitious to see my Name in Print on any occasion; but since it is your Lordships Command, I am more enclined to give you the best Information I am able of the Action, having seen several Printed Relations not very sincere."

The Admiral then goes on to describe circumstantially the movements of the allied naval forces, day by day, from Wednesday May 18 to Wednesday May 25, and tells how the French fleet was defeated and completely destroyed.

Following this letter is a copy of a private letter from Portsmouth, dated May 29, 1692. In this another account of the same battle is given in which it is said that the combined English and Dutch fleets were, "99 ships 40,570 men, 6,994 cannons and 87 fireships and frigates." There is also a brief report of the burning of the French ships which were driven into the harbor of La Hogue and reference to the assembling of troops in and about Portsmouth, designed for a descent upon France. Also under date of Tuesday, June 7, 1692 is this paragraph: "This very day brings News, That the town of *Marmur* but not the Castle have Surrendered to the *French* sooner than it needed to have done, but at so dear a rate, as 'tis hoped will cost the *French* King his Kingdom."

Then is appended this note:

The Happy News of this *Success* and Victory, obtained by Their Majesties Royal Navy, over the *French* Fleet was Received by Their Majesties Loyal Subjects of their Province of the Massachusetts-Bay in New-England, with all Hearty Expressions and Demonstrations of Joy; His Excellency the Governour being absent upon an Expedition against the Common Enemy. The Lieutenant Governour, accompanied with the Gentlemen of the Council; Principal Gentlemen, Military Officers and Merchants of the Town of *Boston*, Repairing unto the Fort, the great Ordnance at the Fort and other Fortifications in and about the said Town and at Their Majesties Castle, were discharged, and Loud Acclamations of God Save *King William* and Queen *Mary*, and grant them a Long and Prosperous Reign, made by the whole Concourse of People there Assembled.

JOHN CAMPBELL'S NEWS LETTERS*

Boston, April 12th. 1703.

Last Week arrived a Vessell from ffyall and tells that about nine week's from this time Two Vessells arrived from Scotland and one from Corke in Ireland, that gave an Accot^t that the union between England and Scotland was concluded upon and said master from ffyall sayes he see it in publick prints.

Cap^t. Smith In the Gospert ffrigett from Jamacia arrived here also Last Week, and by him are Informed of the union being Concluded upon, he came from Jamaica about midle or tenth of March.

Wee do apprehend that the union is only agreed upon by the Commissioners, which if true will be a great step Towards both parliam^{ts}. Concluding it, being the Commissioners are some of the greatest men of both nations.

They Talk from Jamaica of the Spainards suing for a peace, That about 20 Grandees were come to Portugale, to get the King of Portugale to Interceed with her Maj^c. of England to appoint Plenipotentiary to mediat. Cap^t. Lawrence is arrived at Rhoad Island & a Bermudus Sloop, both Privateers, who In Comp^a. with Cap^t. Blue an other privateer, took a Spanish Ship of 8 guns, Loaden with Canary

*During the year of 1703 John Campbell, who was then Postmaster of Boston and subsequently established the Boston News-Letter, sent to the Governors of the several New England colonies manuscript letters in which he gave the latest news received by him from abroad, local items of Boston and reports received from other American colonies. Twelve of these letters are now preserved in the library of the Massachusetts Historical Society. Nine were printed in the Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society, in March 1867, volume 9, pages 485-501. Other manuscript news-letters of this period were printed in the Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society, for February 1873, Vol. 12, pp. 419-427. One of these is dated at Cambridge, April 4, 1666 and others bear dates as follows: Boston, April 11, 1666; Philadelphia, June 5, 1669; Boston, June 19, 1699; New York, April 29, 1709; Boston, May 6, 1700; Boston, May 28, 1700; Boston, June 14, 1703 and

JOHN CAMPBELL'S NEWS LETTERS

and Brandy, and other goods, bound for the Havanna, who had on board 12 families consisting of above 130 Soules. The Prisoners they put on shoare in N. Spain, all to about 7. The Three Consorts put 17 men an a Quarter master on board, Cap^t. Blue attended her with his sloop or vessell. The Prize is not yet arrived.—The Prize said to Come from Spain, and touched at the Canary's.

Cap^t. Southack with our Westarn fleet arrived yesterday.

Cap^t. Delbridge will sayle for London In 20 days, Ten guns; & Cap^t. Dows, lyke guns, In a moneth.

BOSTON April 27th. 1703.

On the 20th Instant arrived a sloop from Antegua in 25 Dayes; one Loyd M^r. brings an acco^t. that Coll^o. Coddington with 3000 Islanders and about 2000 English souldiers Landed in Guardelupia, had Taken the Island all but the fort, having Lost about 200 men by an Ambusscado of Negros; when this Sloop came away the Bloody flagg was hung up, and our men had gott 5 p^s. of Ordinance playing upon it, and Every shott did Execution, and they were a going to have 15 p^s more to bear upon it, and the fourt could bear but 5 upon us, and was thought wee should Carry it in a day or Two at farthest. The Earle of Peterborough was daylie Expected with a Squadron of men of Warr and Land forces, in order to joyne the Island^{rs}. to attaque Martinico.

The Packett boat from Lisbone came in here brings news that a Dutch man of warr hath taken a french man of warr of 50 guns.

ffryday the 23^d Instant, being tthe Queen's Coronation Day, His Excy Coll^o. Dudley being attended by the Troop of Gaurds, came from Roxbury between 12 & one a Clocke, when all y^e guns were

Boston, October 4, 1783. Several of these are addressed to Governor John Winthrop of Connecticut. That dated Boston May 28, 1700 is signed by Duncan Campbell and that of October 4, 1703 is endorsed as from John Campbell. John Campbell was of Scotch ancestry. He was in Boston in 1695 and died March 4, 1728. He was President of the Scots Charitable Society, 1727-28. In the Boston News-Letter of March 7, 1728, was this paragraph: "On Monday evening last, the 4th Cur-rant, about 8 a Clock died here John Campbell, Esq., Aged 75 years, formerly Post Master in this Place, Publisher of the Boston News Letters for many years, and One of his Majesties Justices of the Peace for the County of Suffolk.

JOHN CAMPBELL'S NEWS LETTERS

Discharged from the Castle Battery's, the man of warr, Gally, and ship in the Road, and after having Dined with the honoble Collo. Povey our Liv^t. Governour, with severall Gentlemen, came to the Town house and Drunck her Maje^s. health, &c.

On Satturday the 24th. Arrived one Kimball from ffyall tells us still of y^e Union being Concluded between England and Scotland and that the Portuguese have declaired warr against France and Spain.

The Prize at Rhoad Island is said to have on board 100 Pipes of Canary, 150 Pipes of Malmsy, 30 Caske of Brandy, some Almonds and Razons, what money, Plate or Silks they had was shared before any Condemnation.

Philadelphia, Aprill 13th. They writt that on Satturday Last Arrived a Gentleman from Maryland, brings the following news, That 40 Sayle of West Countrey men were arrived in Maryland and Virginia about 7 Weeks Passage, two men of warr Conveyed them from Corke In Ireland. That the Portuguese had Declaired warr ag^t. France and Spain. That the Prince of y^e Empire were marching 20000 men ag^t. the D. of Bavaria.

That the London fleett for Virginia is not to sail till Latter end of June, under Convey of 4 men of Warr, and a fire ship.

The Galloon proved not so Rich in plate as was Exspected, but very Rich in other valuable goods, as Cochineal, &c. one was not brock up supposed to be very rich.

N. Yorke 19th. Instant; arrived a sloop in 12 Dayes from Burmudus, that Go^r. writts My Lord Cornbury, that the Earle of Petterborough was arrived at Antegua.

Cap^t. Simmons will sail in 10 or 12 Dayes for London; that they have news of y^e union between the two Kingdomes from Philadelphia, by vessells to Maryland.

Boston; Cap^t. Delbrige will sail within 3 weeks for London, Cap^t. Dowse in about a month. Cap^{ts}. Gillam, Coram & Robertson about 2 months.

BOSTON May the 3^d 1703

Cap^t. Alden from Lisbone in 33 dayes arrived the 28. brings the

JOHN CAMPBELL'S NEWS LETTERS

following news in Gazet's, votes of Parliam^t., the Postman, and News Letters, viz^t.

LOND^o. Nov^r. 26: Letters from Holland say that 3 Regiments were ready to Embarke for the West Indies on board 12 men of warr. Letters from Lisbon say that the treaty of Allience between the Allies and the K. of Portugale is Concluded.

LOND^o. Jan^y 14. The E. of Petterborough will sail for Jamaica In a few Dayes.

BOSTON, May 17th 1703.

Last week arrived here a sloop from Jamaica, whereby are Informed, Admirall Whetston with his Squadron are bound hither ffor some action again our Adversarys, to the Northward of us.

Last week also arrived Capt Ransfoord from Barbados, and by Letters of the 13th April, Said, Wee have taken Guardelup all but a fort, w^{ch}. wee Intend to Scale in a few days. Wee have Lost by report above 500 men already:—others Letters Say They daylie expect a Squadron of men of warr, with 8000 men, to assist Generall Coddington.

Last week also arrived here Capt Jarvies ffrom Nevis, about 20 days passage, Says wee have Lost at Guardelup neir 700 men. Wee have taken all, both fort and Castle excepting one ffort In the Top of a mountain, that there is no passage to it, but over a bridge, and that there is no way to conquer the enemy, but by Starving them. It's said the Generall has gone to Bbados for more men, and If do not send'm will Dissert the place, others Say he is resolved to conquer them, err Leaue it. No Quarter is given on either Syde. The ffrench first begun it, ffor one of our men was found mangl'd with this Inscription upon his breast, No Quarter for a Criolean. Some say our men of warr, were of kin to Admirall Benbowes Cap^{ts}., were afraid. If they shot at the fforts, the fforts would Shoott at them again & Spoyle their Masts, and saying one of their Masts was worth the whole Island, and said severall recruits were brought the Adversary from Martinico, by the negligence of the Commador.

They say That Generall Coddington is to be Generallissimo of all her Majes fforces in the West Indies.

JOHN CAMPBELL'S NEWS LETTERS

ffrom Philadel: by a Letter from Antegua of April 9th. They writ: General Coddington with about 3500 men Landed on Guardilup about a month past & fforced the ffrench out of their Trenches, s^d to be much stronger than any In fflanders, batter'd their fforts & castle down, upon w^{ch} they sprung mines, thinking our army would storme (and so blew them up) but was prevented by a dissester.

They have had latlie a supply of 600 men from Martinico, 500 of w^{ch} were planters fforced off, who decline fighting for that reason.

The fforces so long expected under the Command of the E. of Peterborough, w^{ch} consists of 7000 men, were left to the Eastwards of Madera's, are to be commanded by our Generall, who is Capt Grall of all her Majes fforces In America.

N. YORKE, May 10th. On the 5th arrived here Capt Blackston ffrom Plimouth the 12 March, in Comp^a with the west India ffeett, consisting of about 30 Sayle, under convoy of the Blackwall and Montague commanded by Vice Admirall Graydon, in Comp^a where- of S^r Beuill Greenvil, Go^r. of Barbados, and 3000 Land fforces, under Command of Brigadeer.

Generall Coddington made Go. of Jamaica, Colo W^m. Seymour Go^r. of Maryland.

That her Maj^e In Council has reversed the sentence ag Colo Bayard & Alderman Hutchins for High Treason.

The proceedings of The L^d Cornburry here, are well approved by her Maje & Council & the L^{ds} of Trade, and all Acts of Assembly made here Dureing the Last administration annull'd and declared void.

My L^d Cornburry Expects a man of warr daylie with his Commis- sions.

The Council of Nova Cesarea or New Jearsy are

EDWARD HIMLOCK	SAMUELL LEONARD	GEORGE DEACON
LEWIS MORRIS	ANDREW BOWNE	SAM ^{LL} WALKER
SAM ^{LL} JENNINGS	THO ^S RUELL	DAN LEEDS
FRANCIS DAVENPORT	W ^M . PINHORNE	W ^M . SANFORD
ROBERT QUARRY.		

JOHN CAMPBELL'S NEWS LETTERS

Capt Carter In a brig^a & Capt Leventhorp In a ship both went hence Last fall for London, cast away neir Lands end, the men Saved, most of the goods Lost.

The Virg^a fleett was to Sayle in April.

The E. of Peterborough goes not for the West Indies.

A sloop from Antegua arrived here the 7th Instant brings the same Accot^t as is from Phila^d.

Capt Delbridge sails for London this Week, & Capt Travise in the Ship Lyon that Capt Dowse was to Goe in, Sails in a fourtnight at farthest.

Capt Robertson and Coram about 6 Weeks and Capt Everton in about 2 Month's. The french and some Indies took 2 men of ours Prisoners, In Sacho River, and kill'd one man, were Affraid it may occasion a Ruptur betwene us and the Indians.

BOSTON June 1st 1703

On the 25th. of Last month Dyed Mr. Sam^{ll}. Shrimpton and was Buried the 28.

The 26th. was our annuall Election Day of her Majes Council for this Colony, whereon sever^{ll}. members of Council in coaches, and sever^{ll}. Gentlemen on horse Back, wth. the Troop of Guards went, about Eight a Clocke in the morning, to Roxbury to attend his Excell^y to towne, who had a splendid Entertainment for them. Roxbury Troop before his Excell^y, the members of Council and other Gentlemen and the Troop of Guards following; and in the Towne, as is usuall, Two foott Comp^{es}. Guarded them to the town house about Eleven a Clocke, where they staid a short space and were conducted to the Meeting house, and heard a sermon preached by the Rev^d. Mr. Solomon Stoddard,⁽¹⁾ on these Words, Honour thy father and mother, &c. After Sermon his Excell^y & Council, Magistrates & Mini^{rs}. and field Officers had a splendid Dinner, and about four a Clocke went to the Town house, in ord^r. to Choose the Ensuing years Council, who are

(1) Solomon Stoddard, (Oct. 4, 1643-Feb. 4, 1729), son of Anthony and Mary (Downing) Stoddard of Boston; Harvard, 1662; ordained second minister of the church in Northampton, Mass., 1672; "one of the chief divines of New England in his day."

JOHN CAMPBELL'S NEWS LETTERS

COLL ^O ELISHA HUTCHINSON.....	90	} Esq ^{rs} .
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CAPT SAM ^{LL} LEGG.....		
SAMUEL APPLETON		
NATH ^{LL} PAINE		
JOSIAH WINSLOW		
MAJ ^R HUNT		

Maj^r. Converse is Chosen Speaker of the house of Representatives.

Our Eastern Indians came into our Garrisons and acquitted themselves from killing the English man wrote you of before, & sayes it was done by some French and ffrench Indians that Came from Canada, and Wishes they had mett them, would have seized them.

Wee ar Informed severall wayes of a Descent the french and Canada Indians Intends to make upon some of ours, or the Neighbouring Colony frontiers, upon w^{ch} orders are taken to Watch our ffrontier Townes again any Assault.

Samuel Sewall October 1743
The first American Magazine
Published.

THE

INTRODUCTION

THOSE that have seen and attended to the PROPOSALS published for promoting this WORK, will readily apprehend the Scheme to be new and extraordinary; and that no small Charge and Labour will be necessary to the due Execution of it: yet the Encouragement that Compositions of the Nature have met with in Great-Britain from People of all Ranks, and of different Sentiments in Religion, Politics, &c. has induced us to begin the Publication, notwithstanding we have not as yet such a Number of Subscribers as are sufficient to support it, not doubting but that if the Design be well executed, further Encouragement will arise hereafter.

FAC-SIMILE OF THE INTRODUCTION TO THE FIRST VOLUME OF THE AMERICAN MAGAZINE, WITH AUTOGRAPH OF SAMUEL SEWALL OF BROOKLINE

FROM A RARE COPY IN THE PRINCE LIBRARY IN THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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PUBLICK
OCCURRENCES

Both FORREIGN and DOMESTICK.*

Boston, Thursday, Sept. 25th, 1690.

It is designed that the Countrey shall be furnished once a moneth (or if any Glut of Occurrences happen oftener) with an Account of such considerable things as have arrived unto our Notice.

In order here unto, the Publisher will take what pains he can to obtain a Faithful Relation of all such things; and will particularly make himself beholden to such Persons in Boston whom he knows to have been for their own use the diligent Observers of such matters.

That which is herein proposed, is First, That Memorable Accurents of Divine Providence may not be neglected or forgotten, as they too often are. Secondly, that people everywhere may better understand the Circumstances of Publique Affairs, both abroad and at home, which may not only direct their Thoughts at all times, but at some times also to assist their Business and Negotiations.

Thirdly, That some thing may be done towards the Curing, or at least the Charming of that Spirit of Lying, which prevails among us, wherefore nothing shall be entered, but what we have reason to believe is true repairing to the best fountains for our Information.

*Until the discovery of "The Present State of the New-English Affairs," this sheet was regarded as the first news publication printed in the Western Hemisphere. It is a small quarto printed on three sides of a folded sheet, two columns to the page. The paper page is 7¾ by 11½ inches and the type page 5¾ by 10¾ inches. So far as is known, only one copy is now in existence and that is preserved in the Public Record Office in London. There it was discovered by the Reverend J. B. Felt, who refers to it in his "Annals of Salem," second edition, 1849, volume 2, page 14. It is also referred to by Chief Justice Samuel Sewall in his Diary, volume 1, page 332, where he says that the reason for its immediate suppression by the authorities was "because of the passage referring to the French King and the Maquas [Mohawks]." It was copied by Samuel Abbott Green of the Massachusetts Historical Society in 1856, and reprinted by him in The Historical Magazine, Boston, August 1857, volume 1, pages 228-231. It has been reprinted several times, notably in Frederick Hudson's "History of Journalism," pages 44-48. A fac-simile reproduction is in Samuel Abbott Green's "Ten Fac-Simile Reproductions Relating to Old Boston and Neighborhood," Boston,

PUBLICK OCCURRENCES

And when there appears any material mistake in any thing that is collected, it shall be corrected in the next.

Moreover, the Publisher of these Occurrences is willing to engage, that whereas, there are many False Reports, maliciously made, and spread among us, if any well minded person will be at the pains to trace any such false Report, so far as to find out and Convict the First Raiser of it, he will in this Paper (unless just Advice be given to the contrary) expose the Name of such person, as A malicious Raiser of a false Report. It is supposed that none will dislike this Proposal, but such as intend to be guilty of so villanous a Crime.

The Christianized *Indians* in some parts of *Plimouth*, have newly appointed a day of Thanksgiving to God for his Mercy in supplying their extream and pinching Necessities under their late want of Corn, & for His giving them now a prospect of a very *Comfortable Harvest*. Their Example may be worth Mentioning.

Tis observed by the Husbandmen, that altho' the With-draw of so great a strength from them, as what is in the Forces lately gone for *Canada*, made them think it almost impossible for them to get well through the Affairs of their Husbandry at this time of the year, yet the Season has been so unusually favourable that they scarce find any want of the many hundred of hands, that are gone from them; which is looked upon as a Merciful Providence.

While the barbarous *Indians* were lurking about *Chelmsford*, there were missing about the beginning of this month a couple of Children

1901. The original bears the imprint "Printed by Richard Pierce for Benjamin Harris." The publishers evidently intended to continue this as a regular news publication, and for this reason it is fair to consider it as the first attempt to start a newspaper in the American Colonies; but it immediately fell under the ban of the authorities and was suppressed. Following is the order of suppression, a copy of which is preserved in the library of the Massachusetts Historical Society:

BY THE

GOVERNOUR & COUNCIL

WHEREAS some have lately presumed to Print and Disperse a Pamphlet, Entituled Publick Occurrences, both Forreign and Domestick: Boston, Thursday, Septemb. 25th 1690. Without the least Privity or Countenance of Authority.

The Governour and Council having had the perusal of the said Pamphlet, and finding that therein is contained Reflections of a very

PUBLICK OCCURRENCES

belonging to a man of that Town, one of them aged about eleven, the other aged about nine years, both of them supposed to be fallen into the hands of the *Indians*.

A very *Tragical Accident* happened at *Water-Town* the beginning of this Month, an *Old man*, that was of somewhat a Silent and Morose Temper, but one that had long Enjoyed the reputation of a *Sober* and a *Pious Man*, having newly buried his Wife, The Devil took advantage of the Melancholy which he thereupon fell into, his wives discretion and industry had long been the support of his Family, and he seemed hurried with an impertinent fear that he should now come to want before he dyed, though he had very careful friends to look after him who kept a strict eye upon him, lest he should do himself any harm. But one evening escaping from them into the Cow-house, they there quickly followed him, found him *hanging by a Rope*, which they had used to tie their *Calves* withal, he was dead with his feet near touching the Ground.

Epidemical *Fevers* and *Agues* grow very common, in some parts of the Country, whereof, tho' many dye not, yet they are sorely unfitted for their employments; but in some parts a more *malignant Fever* seems to prevail in such sort that it usually goes thro' a Family where it comes, and proves mortal unto many.

The *Small pox* which has been raging in *Boston*, after a manner very Extraordinary, is now very much abated. It is thought that far more have been sick of it than were visited with it, when it raged so much twelve years ago, nevertheless it has not been so Mortal. The number of them that have dyed in *Boston* by this last Visitation is

high nature: As also sundry doubtful and uncertain Reports, do, hereby manifest and declare their high Resentment and Disallowance of said Pamphlet, and Order that the same be Suppressed and called in; strickly forbidding any person or persons for the future to set forth any thing in Print without License first obtained from those that are or shall be appointed by the Government to grant the same.

By order of the Governour & Council

Isaac Addington, Secr.

Boston, September 29th. 1690.

Benjamin Harris, for whom this paper was printed, was a London bookseller, who came to Boston before 1690 and had a shop in or near Cornhill. He returned to London in 1694 and resumed business there. While in Boston he was printer to the Governor and Council.

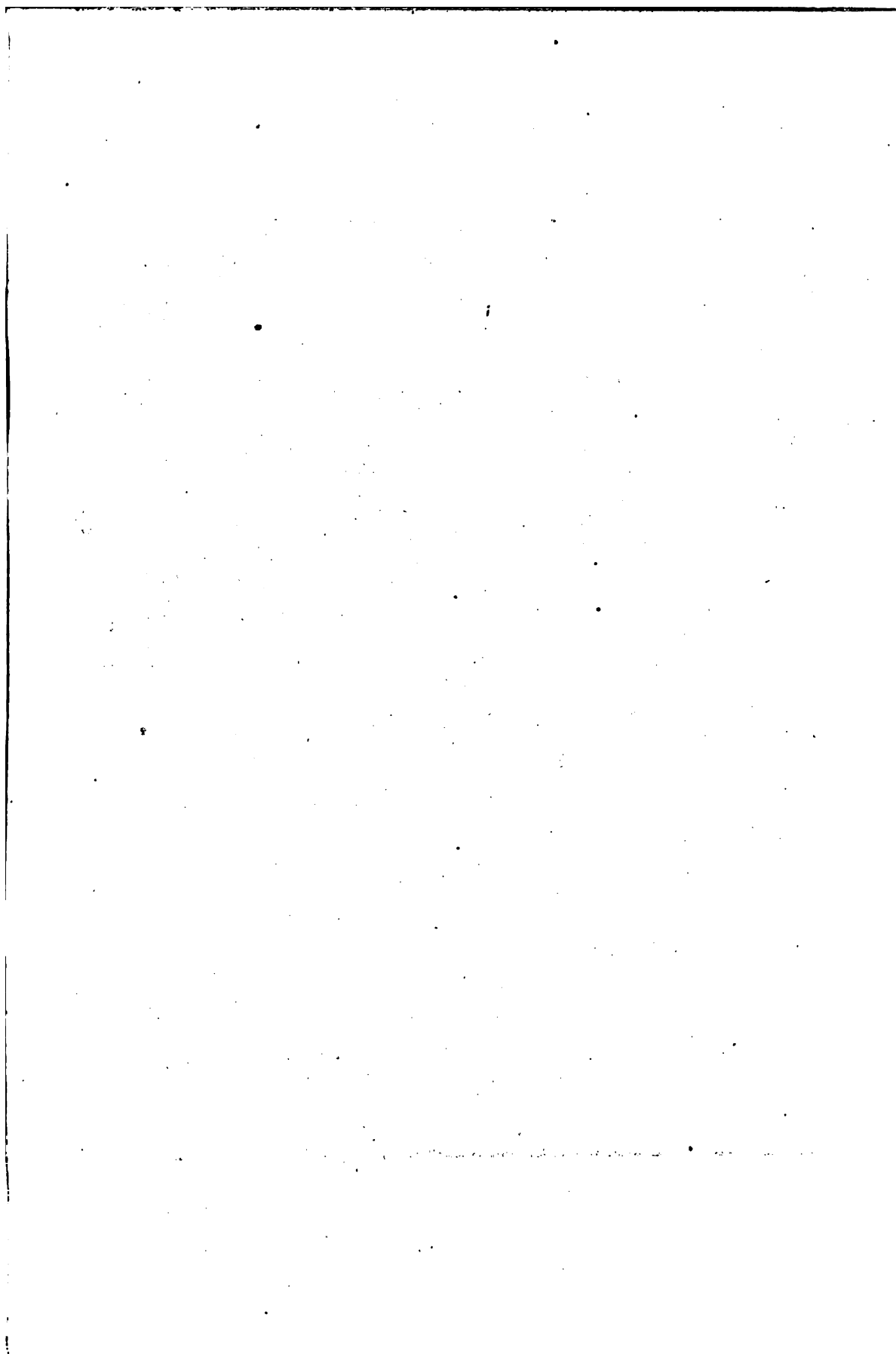
PUBLICK OCCURRENCES

Another late matter of discourse, has been an unaccountable destruction befalling a body of *Indians*, that were our Enemies. This body of *French Indians* had a Fort somewhere far up the River, and a party of Maqua's returning from the *East Country*, where they have at a great rate pursued and terrified those *Indians* which have been invading of our *North East Plantations* and Killed their General *Hope Hood* among the rest; resolved to visit this Fort; but they found the Fort ruined, the Canoo's cut to pieces, and the people all either Butchered or Captured. This gave them no little surprise and they gave the *English* this account of it. That a body of Maqua's lately returning from the spoil of *Canada* brought several *French Prisoners* with them; That calling at this Fort in their way, the *Indians* there seeing themselves unable to resist them did pass divers Complements with them and partake of their Booties. That a *French* Captive after this, escaping from the *Maqua's* informed the *French* that these *Indians* had revolted unto the *Maqua's*, and hereupon the *French* or their *Indians* made a sudden Sally forth upon them, and utterly destroyed them, tho' they were in reality of their own party still.

Two *English Captives* escaped from the hands of *Indians* and *French* at *Pascadamoquady*, came into *Portsmouth* on the sixteenth Instant & say, That when Capt. *Mason* was at *Port Real*, he cut the faces, and ript the bellies of two *Indians*, and threw a third Over board in the sight of the *French*, who informing the other *Indians* of it, they have in revenge barbarously Butcher'd forty Captives of ours that were in their hands.

These two captives escaped in a Shallop, which our Enemies intended to have set out with all the Circumstances of a Fishing Shallop but to have indeed filled with *Indians* that should have Clap't on board any *English* Vessel that came in their way; They say that about three or four weeks ago, some *Indians* were coming this way to War, but crossing a path which they supposed to be of the *Maqua's*, they followed it untill they discovered a place where some Canoo's were making, whereupon twenty *Kennebeck Indian*-Warriors went to look further after the business, who never yet returned, Which gives hope that they may have come short home but upon this the *Squaws* are sent to *Penobscot*, and the men stand on their Defence.

Portsmouth, Sept. 20th. Two days since arrived here a small Vessel from *Barbadoes*, in which is a Letter to Captain *H. K.* of 19th *August* that speaks thus,



of our Gracious Sovereign the Queen, and her just Right and Title to the Crown, against the Bloody Designs of Papists and Jacobites.

Dublin Nov. 27. A Speech was made by a Member of Parliament, setting forth the great Danger the Protestants were in, in some parts of Ireland, particularly the County of Limerick, where the *Irish* were beginning to form themselves into Bands, and to plunder the Protestants of their Arms and Money. And that the disaffected here held a Correspondence with those in England, and were not out of hopes of restoring the pretended Prince of Wales.

There's no doubt but there is a Design among the Papists to do mischief, and it may be justly said they have begun already; for Letters yesterday say that a Body of Papists had got together in the County of Limerick, had marched in a hostile manner through the several Towns, particularly *Ashington*, and had plunder'd and disarm'd several Protestants; and killed one *Green*, a Protestant, for appearing as a Witness in the first Court of Claims against one *Tady O'Quin*, an *Irish* Papist. It's said there are several more little Parties of *Irish* up in that Country, which put the Protestants in a mighty Consternation.

London Gazette Decemb. 16, to 20th. 1703.

Westminster, December. 17.

HER Majesty came this day to the House of Peers, attended with a usual Solemnity; and being Seated on the Throne in Her Royal Robes, Sir *David Mitchell* Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a Message to the House of Commons, requiring their Attendance in the House of Peers, whither they came accordingly; And Her Majesty was pleased to give the Royal Assent to *an Act for Granting an Aid to Her Majesty by a Land Tax, to be rais'd in the Year, One thousand seven hundred and four.*

After which Her Majesty made the following most Gracious Speech to both Houses.
My Lords and Gentlemen,

The Honourable Col. *Nathaniel Byfield* Esq. is Com-missioned Judge of the Admiralty for the Provinces of *Massachusetts-Bay*, *New-Hampshire* and *Rhode-Island*. And *Thomas Newton* Esq. Judge-Deputy for the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

The 20. the Rd. Mr. *Penhryn* Preach'd an Excellent Sermon on *1 Thos. 4. 11. And do your own business*: Exhorting all Ranks & Degrees of Persons to do their own work, in order to a REFORMATION: which His Excellency has ordered to be Printed.

The 21. His Excellency Dissolved the Gen. Assembly *Rhode-Island* 22. the Rd. Mr. *Luckier* dyed on Thursd last.

Capt. *Tungrelo* has taken Five Prizes off of *Carruso*, one of which is come in to *Rhode-Island* mottly Laden with *Cocoa*, *Tobacco*, *Liquors* &c. She is a *Carruso* Trader, as all the rest were. One of the Five was one *Larrew* a *French-man*; a Sloop of 8 Guns & 8 Patrollers 76 Men, Fought him Board and Board thrice Glasse; Captain *Larrew* was kill'd, and 20 of his Men kill'd & wounded: Capt. *Tungrelo* wounded thro' the Body; and five of his men, but none kill'd, he had but 40 Fighting Men, when he took *Larrew*.

The 18 Currant, came in a Sloop to this Port from *Virginia*, the Master informed Governor *Crawford* Esq. he was Chased by a Topsail Shallop off of *Black-Island*, which he judged to be a *French* Privateer, and that there was two other Vessels in her Company, which he judged to be her Prizes. Whereupon his Honour being concerning for the Publick Weal and Safety of Her Majesties good Subjects, immediately caused the Drum to beat for Volunteers, under the Command of Capt. *Winton*, and in 3 or four hours time, Fitted and Manned a Brigantine, with 70 brisk young men well Arm'd, who Sail'd the following Night, returned last Evening, and gave his Honour an Account, that they found the aforesaid Shallop with

I think it proper upon this Occasion to acquaint you, That I have had Unquestionable Informations of very ill Practices and Designs carried on in Scotland by Emissaries from France, which might have proved extremely Dangerous to the Peace of these Kingdoms, as you will see by the Particulars, which shall be laid before you as soon as the several Examinations relating to this Matter can be fully perfected, and made publick without Prejudice: In the mean time, I make no Doubt, but by this Seasonable Discovery, I shall be able to give such Directions for Our Security, as will Effectually Prevent any Consequence from these Pernicious Designs.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons, I am very Sensible of your great Readiness and Application for the Publick Services, by Presenting Me so early in the Session with a considerable Part of your Supplies; I depend entirely upon your Continuing with the same Zeal to dispatch the Remainder of them; that so we may be Prepared to give the specified Assistance to Our Allies, and to defeat the malicious Designs of Our Enemies; who cannot be more industrious to Contrive the Ruine of this Kingdoms, and of the Protestant Religion, than I shall always be Vigilant and Careful, both for their present Prevention, and for their future Security.

John Campbell, Esq. arrived at Jamaica about a Week ago, and is to continue there very Sickly. Mr. Nathan Alcock, the great Merchant of this place, died April 8. and was decently inter'd April 18. *Extrait 53*

Boston: Printed by B. Green. Sold by Nicholas Boone, at his Shop near the Old Meeting-House.

count, that they found the abovesaid Shallop, with one other, and a Ketch at Tarpollan Cove, who were all Fishing Vessels belonging to Marblehead or Salem, who were Fishing off of Black Island, one of them was a French built Shallop with a Topsail, which gave the great suspicion that they were Enemies.

New-York, April, 17. By a Barque from Jamaica, (last from Bermuda, 7 Weeks Passage,) says, there was an Imbargo in that Island several Months, occasioned by News they had of a design the French & Spaniards had, to make a descent upon them: She came out with the Homeward Bound London Fleet, who are gone home without Convey.

Capt. Drayton in the Eagle Gally, Sailes for London, in a Month, if the Virginia Fleet stays so long; he intends to keep them Company Home, if not, to run for it, being Built for that Service.

Philadelphia, April, 14. An Account that the Dredged Man of War was Arrived in Maryland.

N. London, April, 20. The Adventure, A Vessel 60 Tuns, will Sail from thence to London, in three Weeks or 2 Months time.

Advertisement.

This News-Letter is to be continued Weekly; and all Persons who have any Houses, Lands, Tenements, Farms, Ships, Vessels, Goods, Wares or Merchandizes, &c. to be Sold, or Let; or Servants Run-away, or Goods Stole or Lost; may have the same inserted at a Reasonable Rate, from Twelve Pence to Five Shillings, and not to exceed: Who may agree with John Campbell Post-master of Boston.

All Persons in Town and Country, may have said News-Letter every Week, Yearly, upon reasonable terms, agreeing with John Campbell, Post-master for the same.

PUBLICK OCCURRENCES

Christophers is wholly taken from the *French* as also a small island called *Stacia*: we are very strong in Shipping, and our Ships of War are now gone for *Tobago*, a very good place to shelter from any Storms, after the suspicious months are over, they will Attack the rest of the *French* places.

From *Plimouth* Sept 22, We have an Account that on *Friday* the 12th Instant, in the night, our Forces Landing privately, forthwith surrounded *Pegypscot* Fort; but finding no *Indians* there, they March'd to *Amonoscoggin*. There on the Lords-day, they kill'd and took 15 or 16 of the Enemy, and recovered five *English* Captives, mostly belonging to *Oyster River*; who advised, that the men had been gone about ten days down to a River, to meet with the *French*, and the *French Indians*; where they expected to make up a Body of 300 men, and design first against *Wells* or *Piscataqua*.

On *Tuesday*, the Army came to our Vessels at *Macquoit*, but one of the Vessels touching a Ground stopt a Tide; by which means young Bracket, who was a considerable distance up the River, above *Amonoscoggin* Fort, being advised by an Indian that ran away from *Amonoscoggin*, that an *English* Army was there attempted his Escape, and came down to the Sloop just as they came on their Sail.

On Thursday, they landed at *Saco*; a Scout of 60 men of ours discover a party of the Enemy, and had the Advantage of killing three of them, and of taking nine *Canoo's*, and an *English* captive named, *Thomas Baker*, who informed, that the Enemy had left a considerable Plunder at *Pegypscot*-Plains, which he supposed the *Enemy* was gone to secure. Whereupon, the Army immediately embark'd, and arriving there that night, the next morning found the Bever Plunder accordingly.

While our Vessels where at Anchor in *Cascoe Bay*, our Auxiliary Indians lodging on shore, and being too careless in their Watch, the Enemy made an Attaque upon them. The *English* forthwith repair'd to their Relief; but were sorely galled by an Embuscado of Indians. The Enemy soon quitted the field escaping with their *Canoo's* whereof ours took several. In the Surprise, we loss 9 men, and had about 20 wounded; the blow chiefly fell on our dear *Friends*, the *Plimouth Forces*, 15 being killed and wounded of Captain *Southworth's* Company.

BOSTON NEWS-LETTER, APRIL 24, 1704

which he judged to be her Prizes. Whereupon his Honour being concerning the Publick Weal and Safety of Her Majesties good Subjects, immediately caused the Drum to beat for voluntiers, under the Command of Capt. *Wanton*, and in 3 or four hours time, Fitted and Man'd a Brigantine, with 70 brisk young men well Arm'd, who Sail'd the following Night, returned last Evening, and gave his Honour an Account, that they found the aforesaid Shallop, with one other, and a Ketch at *Tarpolian* Cove, who were all Fishing Vessels belonging to *Marblehead* or *Salem*, who were Fishing off of *Block-Island*, one of them was a *French* built Shallop with a Topsail, which gave the great suspicion that they were Enemies.

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BOSTON NEWS-LETTER, MAY 1, 1704

THE BOSTON NEWS-LETTER*

From Monday April 24 to Monday May 1, 1704

AS—MH—NY

South-Carolina Via New-York.

AN Account of what the Army from thence had done, under the Command of Colonel *Moore* in his Expedition last Winter against the *Spaniards* and *Spanish* Indians. In a Letter from him to the Governor of *Carolina*. May it please Your Honour to accept of this short Narrative of what I with the Army under my Command have been doing since my Departure from the *Ockomulgg* on the 19th December. On the 14th January we came to a Town, and strong and almost regular Fort about Sun Rising, call'd *Ayavalle*, at our first approach the Indians in it fired and shot Arrows at us briskly; from which we shelter'd our selves under the side of a great Mud-wall'd House, till we could take a view of the Fort, and consider of the best way of assaulting it: which we concluded to be by breaking the Church door, which made a part of the Fort, with Axes. I no sooner proposed this, but my men readily undertook it; ran up to it briskly, (the Enemy at the same time shooting at them) were beaten off without effecting it, and fourteen white men wounded, two hours after that we thought fit to attempt the burning the Church which we did, three or four Indians assisting us: The Indians in it obstinately defending themselves, and kill'd us two white men, viz *Frances Plowden* and *Thomas Dale*; after we were within their Fort, a Fryar the only white in it came forth and begged mercy; In this we took about 26 men alive, and 58 Women and Children; The Indians took about as many more of each sort, the Fryar told us, we kill'd in the two Storms Twenty five men. The next morning the Captain of *St Lewis* Fort with 23 white men and 400 Indians came to Fight us, which we did, beat him, took him, and Eight of his men Prisoners;

*This issue is a full sheet folio, the last page, however, blank. The foreign matter comprises extracts from the London Flying Post, from December 23 to 25, covering European war news in advices from Warsaw, Zurich, and Vienna, and reports from Frankfort as to the design of France and Spain to divide Switzerland "betwixt them." The imprint of this number reads: "Boston, Printed by B. Green, Sold at the Post-Office, 1704."

BOSTON NEWS-LETTER, MAY 1, 1704

the which two Sloops he took, and gave *Christian* abroad side, and Chased him; but *Christian* out-sailing *Gelding*, made his escape, and got clear; which if Capt. *Gelding* had not met with, might have proved very detrimental to that Island.

Boston April 28. An Express came to His Excellency from *New-Hampshire*, acquainting him, That there was a man found Dead and Scalpt near *Dover*, but whither kill'd by English or *Indians*, not yet known.

Sail'd from *Boston* this Week, Capt. *William Blaire*, in the Ship *Providence* for *Barbados*. *Zachariah Cauley*, in the Ship *John* for *Lisbon*. *Stephen Pain*, in the Sloop *Mary* for *Madera*. *John Moor* in the Ketch *New-Berry* for *Newfoundland*. *Richard Smith*, Brigateen *Dragon* for *Antigua*. *Nehemiah Heath* in a Brigateen *Endeavour* for *Ruanoke*.

And out-ward bound, *James Bridgham* for *Barbados*, in the Sloop *Unity*. *John Richards*, in the Brigateen *Sarah*, for *Jamacia*: And *Nathaniel Vial* in a Sloop *Lark*, for said Port. *Joseph Brown*, in the Ketch *Freke*, for *Madera*. And Capt. *Giles Enfield* in the Ship *Mary*, for *Antigua*, Sails within Ten days, from *Rhode-Island*. Capt. *Samuel Pain* in the Ship *Grayhound*, is bound for *Nevis*, will Sail in about a Fornight. *Judah Thacher* in a Sloop bound for *Jamacia*, will Sail about 20 days hence.

Piscataqua, April 28. By letters thence, acquainted, That on the 18th Marched Forty one English and *Indians* from *Salmon-Falls* unto *Winnopiscag Ponds*, and at the same time from thence (being the Seat of War) about 90 more *Eastward*, under the Conduct of Capt. *Brown*, having 8 dayes Provision, who Travelled thro' *Well's* round *Mowsum River*, and 20 Miles up *Saco*, being the most reputed Places for Fishing; they returned last *Wednesday*, but could not discover any Foot-steps of the Enemy, excepting one Canoo.

On *Tuesday* the 25 *Nathaniel Meader* of *Dover* in *Oyster River* being [?at] work in his Field, and burning Brush was [way] laid by a Company of *Indians*, as he returned home about Sunset, who shot him through the thigh & leggs, then took, Scalpt, kill'd, and stript him Naked.

On *Wednesday* Morning, a small Scout made a descent on *Lam-prey*, *Eel River*, who destroyed *Edward Taylor*, at the Sawmill and

BOSTON NEWS-LETTER, MAY 1, 1704

And as the Indians which say they did it, told us kill'd five or six Whites: We have a particular Account from our Indians of 168 Indian men kill'd and taken in the Fight and Flight, but the *Appalatchia* Indians say, they lost 200, which we have reason to believe to be the least. Captain *John Berringer* Fighting bravely in the Head of our men was kill'd at my foot; Captain *Fox* dyed of a Wound given him at the first Storming of the Fort. Two days after I sent to the *Cassik* of *Ibitachuka*, who with 130 men was in his strong and well made Fort, to come and make his peace with me, the which he did, and compounded for it, with his Churches Plate, and ten Horses laden with Provisions: After this I marched thro' five Towns which had all strong Forts and Defences against small Arms; they all submitted and surrendered their Forts to me without condition. I have now in my Company all the whole People of three Towns, and the greatest part of four more: we have totally destroyed all the people of two Towns: So that we have left in *Appalatchia* but that one Town which compounded with one part of St. *Lewis*, and the people of one Town which run away all together; their Town, Church and Fort we have burnt. The people of St *Lewis* come to me every night. I expect and have advice that the Town which compounded with me are coming after me: The waiting for these People make my Marches slow, for I'm willing to bring away with me free, as many of the Indians as I can: This being the Address of the Commons to Your Honour to Order it so, this will make my mens part of Plunder (which otherwise might have been 100*l* a man) but small: but I hope with Your Honours assistance to find away to gratifie them for their bold and stout action, and their great loss of blood: I never see or hear of a stouter or braver thing done, than the Storming the Fort: It hath regained the reputation we seem'd to have lost under the Conduct of *Robert Macken*, the Indians having now a mighty value for the Whites: *Appalatchia* is now reduced to the feeble and low condition, that it can neither suport St *Augustin* with Provision, or disturb, endamage or frighten us; our Indians living between us and *Appalatchia* and the *French*: In short we have made *Carolina* as safe as the conquest of *Appalatchia* can make it. If I had not so many men wounded in our first Attempt, I had assaulted St *Lewis* Fort, in which is about 28 or 30 men, and 20 of these came thither from *Panseccoola* to buy Provision the first night after I took the first Fort. On Sabbath the

BOSTON NEWS-LETTER, MAY 1, 1704

23^d Instant I came out of *Appalatchia* settle[ment], and am now about Thirty miles on my way home, but do not expect to reach it before the middle of *March*, notwithstanding my Horses will be able to carry me to the Chereques Mountains, I have had a dirty, tedious and uneasy Journey, and though I have no reason to fear any harm from the Enemy, through the difference between the Whites and Indians, and between Indians and Indians, bad way and fales Alarms, do still labour under hourly uneasiness. The number of free *Appalatchia* Indians which are now under my protection, and bound with me to *Carolina* are 1300. And 100 for Slaves. The Indians under my Command kill'd and took Prisoners in the Plantation, whilst we Stormed the Fort, as many Indians as we and they took and kill'd in the Fort. Dated in the Woods 50 Miles N. and E. of *Appalatchia*.⁽¹⁾

Piscataqua, April 22d. Last night arrived one *Parker* in a Sloop from *Antigua* 3 Weeks passage, Says, that the New General is daily expected with 14 or 16 Sail of men of War. That the French have 22 Sail of Privateers out.

Boston, April 24. By a Sloop arrived here from *Jamacia*, *Judah Thacher* Master, about 5 Weeks passage from thence; acquainted, That the man who gave information of a descent intended by the *French* and *Spaniards* to be made on that Island, being found false was put in Prison. That there was an Indian come from the Mainland of *New-Spain* complaining to the Governour of *Jamacia*, of bad usage they had met from the *Spaniards*, and if His Excellency would send Forces, that the Indians would joyn them, and destroy the *Spaniards*, what they could: The Indian was a brisk little Fellow, whom his Excellency was pleas'd to Cloath well: but whither he would send Forces or not the Master could not tell. There was one Capt. *Christian* a French Privateer, in a small Snow about 6 Guns, Sailed from the *Havana*, with two more Privateer Sloops in Company, having on Board about 150 men, designed to land on the North side of the Island of *Jamacia*, and plunder the People. But Capt. *Gelding* in a private man of War Sloop, 4 Guns, about 60 men, belonging to *Jamacia*, came up with said *Christian*, and his two Sloops;

(1) Reprinted from the News-Letter in Carroll's "Historical Collections of South Carolina," vol. II 1836. Bancroft in his "History of the United States," vol. II, p. 194, errs in referring to this invasion as having occurred in the last weeks of 1705.

BOSTON NEWS-LETTER, MAY 1, 1704

the which two Sloops he took, and gave *Christian* abroad side, and Chased him; but *Christian* out-sailing *Gelding*, made his escape, and got clear; which if Capt. *Gelding* had not met with, might have proved very detrimental to that Island.

Boston April 28. An Express came to His Excellency from *New-Hampshire*, acquainting him, That there was a man found Dead and Scalpt near *Dover*, but whither kill'd by English or *Indians*, not yet known.

Sail'd from *Boston* this Week, Capt. *William Blaire*, in the Ship *Providence* for *Barbados*. *Zachariah Cauley*, in the Ship *John* for *Lisbon*. *Stephen Pain*, in the Sloop *Mary* for *Madera*. *John Moor* in the Ketch *New-Berry* for *Newfoundland*. *Richard Smith*, Brigateen *Dragon* for *Antigua*. *Nehemiah Heath* in a Brigateen *Endeavour* for *Ruanoke*.

And out-ward bound, *James Bridgham* for *Barbados*, in the Sloop *Unity*. *John Richards*, in the Brigateen *Sarah*, for *Jamacia*: And *Nathaniel Vial* in a Sloop *Lark*, for said Port. *Joseph Brown*, in the Ketch *Freke*, for *Madera*. And Capt. *Giles Enfield* in the Ship *Mary*, for *Antigua*, Sails within Ten days, from Rhode-Island. Capt. *Samuel Pain* in the Ship *Grayhound*, is bound for *Nevis*, will Sail in about a Fornight. *Judah Thacher* in a Sloop bound for *Jamacia*, will Sail about 20 days hence.

Piscataqua, April 28. By letters thence, acquainted, That on the 18th Marched Forty one English and Indians from *Salmon-Falls* unto *Winnopiscag Ponds*, and at the same time from thence (being the Seat of War) about 90 more *Eastward*, under the Conduct of Capt. *Brown*, having 8 dayes Provision, who Travelled thro' *Well's* round *Mowsum River*, and 20 Miles up *Saco*, being the most reputed Places for Fishing; they returned last *Wednesday*, but could not discover any Foot-steps of the Enemy, excepting one Canoo.

On *Tuesday* the 25 *Nathaniel Meader* of *Dover* in *Oyster River* being [?at] work in his Field, and burning Brush was [way] laid by a Company of Indians, as he returned home about Sunset, who shot him through the thigh & leggs, then took, Scalpt, kill'd, and stript him Naked.

On *Wednesday* Morning, a small Scout made a descent on *Lam-prey, Eel River*, who destroyed *Edward Taylor*, at the Sawmill and



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BOSTON NEWS-LETTER, MAY 8, 1704

THE BOSTON NEWS-LETTER*

From Monday May 1 to Monday May 8, 1704

AS—MH—NY

By his Excellency *JOSEPH DUDLEY* Esq. Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over Her Majesties Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay* in *New England*

A PROCLAMATION for a GENERAL FAST

UPon Consideration of the troublesome Sate of Europe by reason of the Calamitous Wars wherein those Nations are Engaged amongst themselves, and of Her Majesties Great & Just Interest therein; As also the present Circumstances of these Her Majesties Territories and Plantations, And the Influences which the Wars of Europe may have upon our selves; Together with the Hostilitie acted against us by the treacherous Murderous Salvages within our Limits I have thought fit, by and with the Advice of Her Majesties Council, and at the desire of the Representatives, to Appoint Thursday, the 18th of May next, A day of Publick Fasting with Prayer to be observed throughout this Province, Humbly to Implore the Divine Mercy, for the Preservation of Her Majesties Sacred Person, That Her just Armes with those of her Allies may be prosperous in the Actions of this present year; That the Forces in this Province Employed in Her Majesties Service, may by the good Conduct of Heaven, be Succeeded in their just Enterprises, and our Enemies defeated; That the Defence of Divine Protection may be over our Sea Coast and Inland Frontiers; That our Seed-time and Harvest may be under benign Influences of Heaven; That there may be a plentiful Effusion of the Holy Spirit of GOD for a thorough Reformation of all those Evils which are amongst us, That so GOD may turn away his Anger and Restore us a prosperous State; And that the Protestant Interest may every where prevail throughout the World. Exhorting both

*In this issue return was made to the half sheet folio printed on both sides. The first page is largely taken up by extracts from the London Gazette, Novemb. 8 to 11, 1703, giving a report of the opening of Parliament and the Queen's speech. The imprint of this number runs as in the issue of April 17, (p. 45): "Boston: Printed by B. Green, Sold by Nicholas Boone at his Shop near the Old Meeting-House."



*Yours most vehement full
humble servant
T Prince*

REPRODUCED FROM ENGRAVING IN THE NEW ENGLAND
HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL REGISTER

BOSTON NEWS-LETTER, MAY 8, 1704

She should see it. In the Interim Mr *Waldron* coming over the Boom; the Watchman on the Top of his House, not knowing who it was call'd out, *Stand*; which the *Indians* hearing, being frightened, ran all away, one stept back and with the head of his Hatchet, knock't the Girl down, and left her for Dead, who lay in the Spot two Hours, till being found wanting, was enquir'd after and search'd for at the Spring, where She was found, a little come to her self; hope She may do well, for her Skull is not broke. Thus Mr. *Waldron* narrowly escap'd.

Jamacia, by Letters *Via New-York* of March last, acquainted, that the Sea-horse Man of War took 3 French Prizes, one belonging to *Peteguaves*; one of them got so near the Shore, and the man of War in pursuit of her is run on Shore upon the back side of *Jamacia* and is lost.

Boston, Arrived this Week from *Barbados*, about a Months passage, Capt. *Alden*, *Green*, *Bennet*, *Foster*, *Barns*, and *Hobbs*, but bring no News, & *Everton* came out in Company, not yet Arrived, as also *Gurley* for *Marblehead*, and *Perkins* for *Cape Ann*. Arrived also Mr. *Montveil* in a Sloop for *N. York*, & Capt. *Shute* at *Plymouth*, from *Saltitudos*, having lost his Mast in a Storm & necessitated to thro' overboard part of his Loading.

Outward Bound, *Judah Thacher* for *Jamacia*, and *Carteret Gillam* for Rhode-Island.

New-York, May 1. Yesterday Arrived a Sloop in 7 days from *Virginia*, by whom advised, that the Fleet will not Sail till the last Instant, or first of June; and that 2 Men of War are daily expected there to Strengthen the Convoy. Capt. *Davison* in the Eagle Gally hopes to Sail with them, he purposes from hence about 25 of this Month. Capt. *Burges* and *Davis* Sail'd last Week for *Virginia* to joyn the Convoy home, and Capt. *Potter* designs also next Week. A Ship of 350 or 400 Tuns, Capt. *Harrison* Commander, was lately burnt in *Virginia* having on board 460 Hogsheads, 'tis said the Gunner went Drunk to Bed, and left a Candle burning in his Cabin, by which the Ship was fired & he and 2 or 3 were burnt in her.

Advertisements.

S Tollen the 4 instant in the Morning out of the house of James Cooper, near Charlestown Ferry in Boston, several sorts of mens



*Your most reverent full
humble servant
T. Prince*

REPRODUCED FROM ENGRAVING IN THE NEW ENGLAND
HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL REGISTER

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BOSTON NEWS-LETTER, MAY 1, 1704

took his Wife and Son Captive, as they went from the Garrison unto their dwelling-house, about a Mile and a half distant in the Woods. Major *Hilton* instantly raised about 20 men, who in a little time discovered the Enemies track, but the Night approaching, prevented any further discovery.

Rhode-Island, April 27. The Honourable Col. *Nathaniel Byfield*⁽¹⁾ Esq. his Commission for Judge of the Admiralty, was published and admitted of here, on the 25. Currant.

The prize that Capt. *Toungerlo* sent in, could not be condemned, in regard there was not Evidences sent in her; but those to whom she was conugned proffer'd sufficient Bond and Security to respond said Goods, upon having liberty to take them on Shoar till could be condemned, which suppos'd would be granted.

New-York, April 24. The *Dreadnought* with Colonel *Seymour*, Governour of *Maryland* Arrived the 10th Instant. The *Virginia* Fleet will Sail the latter end of *May* for *London*. Captain *Davison* from hence designs to keep them Company if they Sail at that time. On the 18th Arrived a Sloop here from *Curaso*: The 23. a Sloop Arrived from *Madera* 7 Weeks Passage, *Joseph Wright* Master. Capt. *Burges* and Capt. *Davies* lie ready to Sail for *Virginia* for Convoy home.

 Lost on the 10. of April last off of Mr. Shippen's Wharff in Boston, Two Iron Anvils, weighing between 120 and 140 pounds each: Whoever has taken them up, will bring or give true Intelligence of them to *John Campbell* Post-master, shall have a sufficient reward.

Advertisement.

This News-Letter is to be continued Weekly; and all Persons who have any Houses, Lands, Tenements, Farms, Ships, Vessels, Goods, Wares, or Merchandizes, &c. to be Sold, or Let; or Servants, Run-away, or Goods Stole or Lost; may have the same inserted at a Reasonable Rate, from *Twelve Pence* to *Five Shillings*, and not to exceed: Who may agree with *John Campbel*, Post-master of *Boston*, In the same: And if in the Country, with the Post-master of the respective Towns, to be transmitted to the Post-master of Boston: and all such Advertisements are to be brought in Writing to said Post-masters.

(1) See note (2) on p. 44.

BOSTON NEWS-LETTER, MAY 22, 1704

THE BOSTON NEWS-LETTER*

From Monday May 15. to Monday May 22, 1704

AS—MH—NY

Piscataqua, May 13. Letters thence acquaint us of some more damage, done by the Sculking Adversary, on the 11. instant *Nicholas Cole* of Wells, with *Nicholas Hogden*, *Thomas Dane* and *Benjamin Gough*, Souldiers, were about a Mile from Capt. *Wheelwright's* Garrison to Look after his Cattle, and on their return were Attack't by 12 Indians, who kill'd said *Cole* and *Hogden*, took *Dane* Captive, *Gough* escaping, advised Capt. *Hales* of it, who immediately called his Souldiers together; but the Enemy had fled.

Her Majesties Council by his Excy. direction hath appointed Thursday the 18. instant a day of Publick Fasting with Prayer, being the same day appointed by His Excy. & Council in the Province of *Mass. Bay* and for said ends contain'd in said Proclamation.

Arrived here *John Holicom* from Antigua. *Richard Shortridge* for *Fyall* wind-bound. Outward-bound, Capt. *Alcock* for Barbadoes ready to Sail, *John Frost* for said Port in Ten days, and *Robert Emery* in about 3 weeks, and *Richard Waterhouse* for St. Christophers in a Week.

Northampton, May 13. A Company of Indians and French, between day break and Sun-rising, about 60 Set upon a Garrison-house of *Benj. Jones's*, about two Miles from the body of the Town, and set fire to it ere they were aware of it; Kill'd and carryed Captive about 30 Persons. The Town being Alarmed pursued them, the Enemy finding it, scattered themselves into parties; and so did the English into Ten in a Company, pursuing them; Capt. Taylor was kill'd in the pursuit.

*A half sheet folio. On the first page, foreign intelligence, comprising, under date of Westminster, Novemb. 12, 1703, the Address of the Lords to the Queen, and the Queen's Answer; and Advices dated Lisbon, March 27, respecting the reception by the King of Portugal of the Fleet from England with the King of Spain on board. Domestic news fills the second page. The imprint of this number is again as on the issue May 1 (*p.* 47): "Boston: Printed by B. Green. Sold at the Post-Office, 1704."



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|---|------------------------|------|---|-----------------|
| A | The Old Church Founded | 1630 | 1 | Town House |
| B | Old North | 1630 | 2 | Governors House |
| C | Old South | 1660 | 3 | South Grammar S |
| D | Baptist | 1680 | 4 | North Do |
| E | A. of England | 1688 | 5 | Writing School |
| F | Brattle's, Ch | 1689 | 6 | Writing School |
| G | Quakers | 1710 | 7 | Alms House |
| H | New North | 1718 | 8 | Bridewell |
| I | New South | 1716 | 9 | Prison |
| K | French | 1710 | | |
| L | New Brick | 1722 | | |

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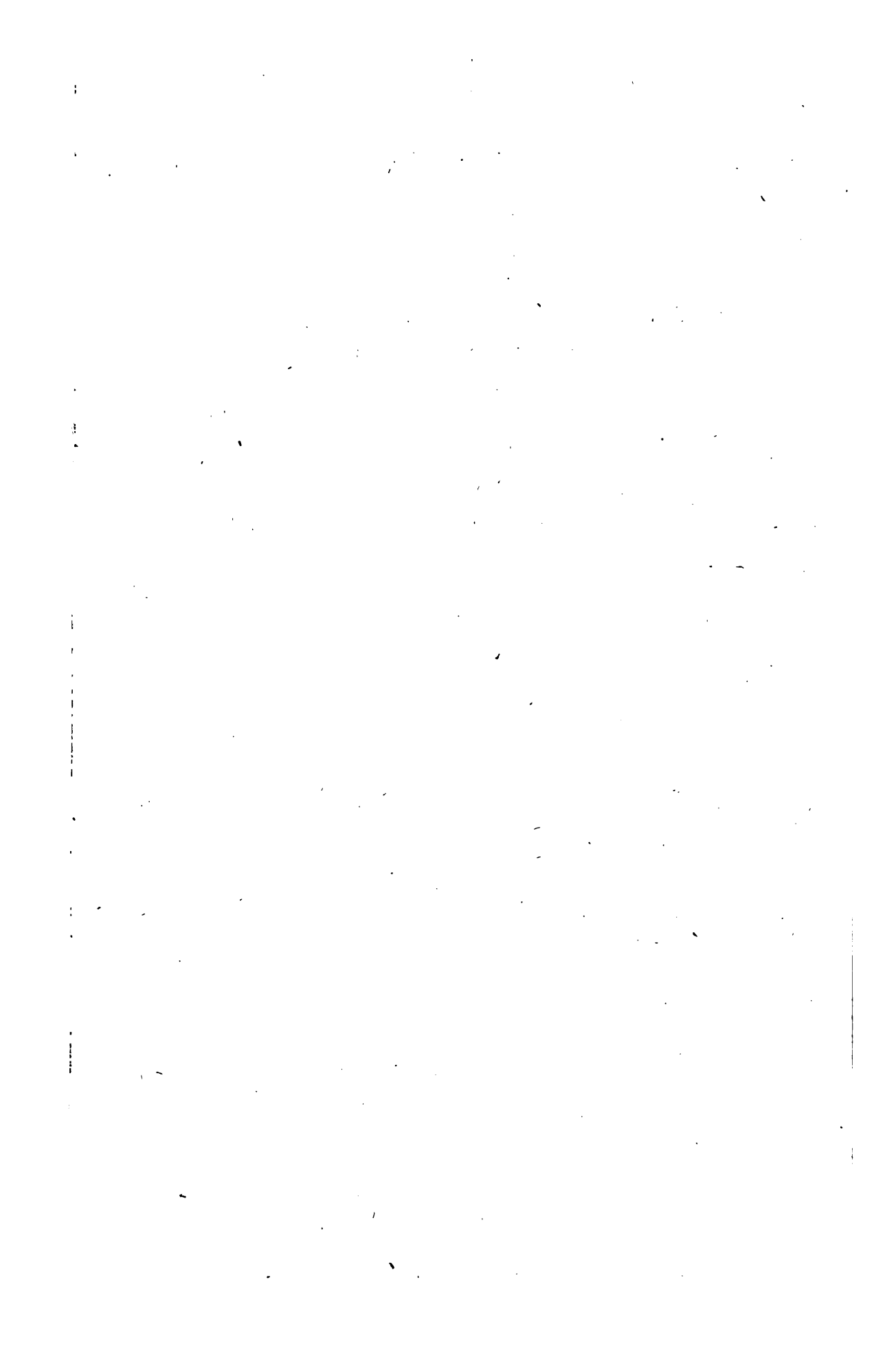
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|---|-------------------------------|------|---|-----------------------------|
| A | <i>The Old Church Founded</i> | 1650 | 1 | <i>Town House</i> |
| B | <i>Old North</i> | 1650 | 2 | <i>Grammar House</i> |
| C | <i>Old South</i> | 1660 | 3 | <i>South Grammar School</i> |
| D | <i>Baptist</i> | 1680 | 4 | <i>North Do</i> |
| E | <i>Ch of England</i> | 1680 | 5 | <i>Writing School</i> |
| F | <i>Brattle St Ch</i> | 1689 | 6 | <i>Writing School</i> |
| G | <i>Quakers</i> | 1710 | 7 | <i>Alms House</i> |
| H | <i>New North</i> | 1718 | 8 | <i>Bridewell</i> |
| I | <i>New South</i> | 1716 | 9 | <i>Prison</i> |
| K | <i>French</i> | 1710 | | |
| L | <i>New Brick</i> | 1722 | | |

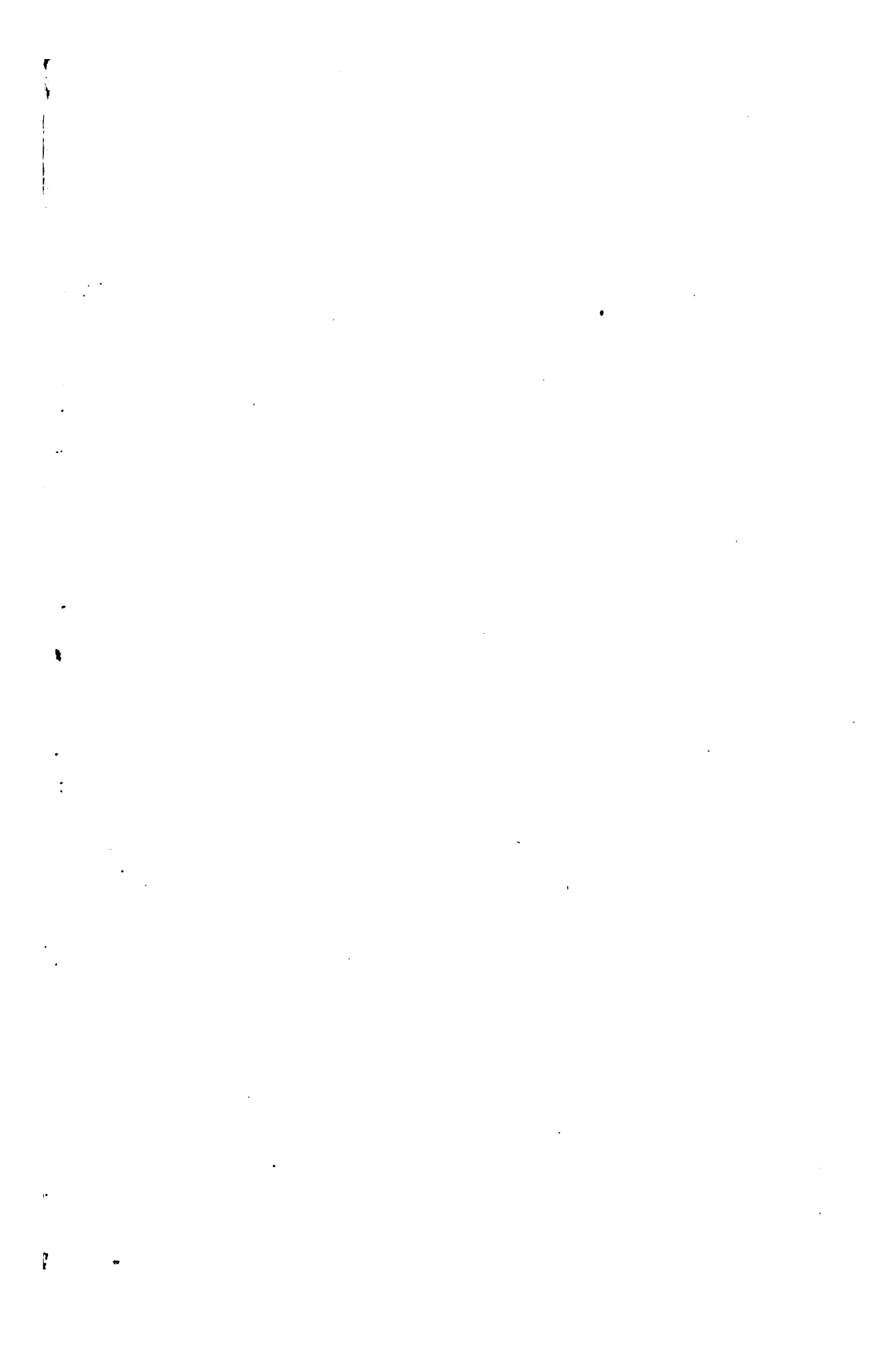
BOSTON NEWS-LETTER, MAY 22, 1704

Boston, May 15. This day an Embargo was laid on all outward Bound Ships.

The 16. dyed the Rd. Mr. William Corbin.

On the 11. Currant Arrived Mr. *Jacob Fowle* of *Marblehead*, at *Stonington*, in a small Sloop, about 22 days from Curaso: he was lately an Apprentice to Mr. *Bulfinch* Sail-maker of Boston; went out some 12 Months ago, in one *Reddinton* from Rhode-Island for Curaso, in order to go a Privateering when they came there; the Governour broke their measures, the men Shipt themselves some one way and some another, his lot was to go on board a Dutch man, bound for to trade with the Spaniards, in a Ketch of 10 Guns, A Spaniard met them, kill'd the Dutch Lieutenant. The Master, Merchant and others upon it jumpt into the hole, before the Spaniard so much as boarded them; and if they had fought needed not have been taken. When they were carryed into New-Spain, where he was about 9 Months, all the men were sent to the Mines, he being Sick was spared; and when somewhat recovered, the Governour of the place, wanting a Sute of Sails to be made for a Sloop, hearing he was a Sail-maker, put him to make them; for which [he] had a very small reward, a bit of Meat the breadth of a mans Finger, and a little Cassadar bread, his chief Diet while in N. Spain was Oysters. A Trader being bound along the Coast wanted a hand, came to the Governour to desire the English man, and promised to return him again, when he came back; 'twas granted: So Mr. Fowle went along with him, and coming into a certain Port where a French man of War lay; he went on board, & met another English man, to whom, he said, that if he would go along with him, he would come for him in the Night, & would carry him off, 'twas agreed, the other should be in the Lyon in the head, & he should come with his Canoo and take him in; and they two should knock the Spaniards of the Barque alongo in the head, and come away with her, and accordingly he took the Canoo in the night, when the Spaniard was asleep, and put in her two Guns, two Cutlases and 2 Pistols, took the Ancient for a Sayl and Sails to the Man of War; The Watch on Board was too quick sighted for him, espied 'em, and was forced to paddle back again with all his might, put the Ancient in his place: The Spaniards still asleep knew nothing of it. In some short time afterwards, the Spaniards going all ashore leaving him & a *Spanish Indian* on board, he stept & unloos'd the Sails





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